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AND OF THE

POLITICS, COMMERCE, AND LITERATURE

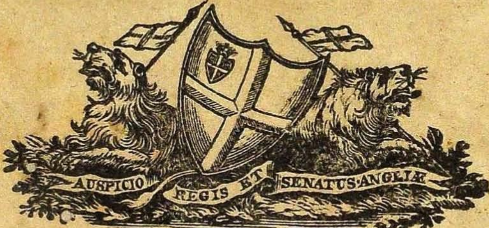
OF

ASIA.

Vol. XII.—For the Year 1810-11.

By E. SAMUEL.

THE TANJORE MAHA[illegible] SARASWATI MAHAL



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PREFACE.

The present Volume of the Asiatic Register has been somewhat retarded by an unforeseen and uncontrollable event; but the same circumstance has enabled the Editor to bring down the detail of Indian Occurrences to a later period, and to make some valuable additions to the series of State Papers, forming a second interesting department of his Work, which an earlier publication would have precluded: so that the delay of a few weeks will be compensated, it is hoped, by the accumulated materials which it has furnished.

The head allotted to official papers is more than ordinarily comprehensive. The reader will find in it many important documents, calculated to explain the

interesting events recorded in the preceding volume of the Register, as well as to inform his mind on a question, which is about to arise for discussion in the national council, and likely to give rise to much diversity of opinion, as to the propriety of extending or limiting the duration of the exclusive Charter of the East India Company. From the length of the reports already presented by a committee of the House of Commons on the state of the Company's finances, on which the decision of the question must mainly depend, the Editor has been obliged to omit some tables of accounts, which have been referred to in such reports, for the purpose of giving authority to the results stated: but the latter, it is supposed, may be fairly taken on credit, looking to the respectability of the source whence the results proceed, and the notoriety of the data on which they are founded. Other papers have been excluded from the present selection, that are added to the reports, as affording evidence of certain facts also stated in them, of which there can be no doubt, and which, if admitted, would have swelled the volume to a most unreasonable and inconvenient bulk.* But the most material of these, consisting of treaties recently

concluded with several native states of Hindustan, will be inserted in the next volume, if the peculiar department of the Work, from the urgency of matters connecting themselves with the renewal of the charter, will admit of so early an insertion of them.

With this explanation the Editor submits the present volume to the indulgent reception of his readers.

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HISTORY OF BRITISH INDIA.

FOR 1810-11.

CHAPTER I.

Introductory observations—reasons for commencing the historical sketch of the present volume with an account of the operations against the French islands—slender resources of France in the Indian seas, compared with her successes—short notice of the first expedition of colonel Keating against Bourbon—the force posted at Rodriguez augmented to 3650 men—proceeds a second time to Bourbon in July, 1810—appears off the island on the 7th of that month—difficulties attendant on the disembarkation—parties landed, separated from the main force by the violence of the surf—lieutenant-colonel Macleod forced to take post at St. *Marie* for the night—the *Boadicea* sent to leeward, to attempt a landing in support of the 1st brigade, destined to that side of the island, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Fraser—critical situation of that officer—overcome by a prompt and steady courage—takes possession of the heights in his front — advances and takes post on the height above St. *Denis*—descends towards the fortress, falls back at sun-set, to his first position—again gallantly moves forward on the next morning, under the galling fire of the enemy—whom he drives from their lines with great slaughter—and possesses himself of their guns and batteries—unsuccessful attempt to retake the principal redoubt by the French—flag of truce sent out by the enemy—arrival of col. Keating at this juncture—surrender of the island adjusted on the 9th—Mr. Farquhar, governor of Bourbon, issues a proclamation, inviting the inhabitants of the Isle of France to surrender—takes possession of the Isle de Passe—return of commodore *Duperre*, with his division, to the French island, accompanied by two captured Indiamen—the Windham cut off by captain *Pym*, of the *Sirius*—unfortunate result of an attack of that officer on the enemy's division at their anchorage—with the loss of the *Sirius*, *Nereide*, and *Magicienne*—further loss of the *Iphigenia*, and surrender of the British garrison at the Isle de Passe—the enemy's naval force becomes the ascendant—blockades the ports of Bourbon—the *Africaine* arrives from England, is joined by the *Boadicea*, which together sail to raise the blockade—the engagement of the former with two French frigates—is captured—retaken by the *Boadicea*—Bourbon again blockaded by the *Venus*, and Victor corvette—encounter, and after a smart engagement capture H. M.'s frigate Ceylon, having general Abercrombie on board—the *Venus* captured, and the *Ceylon* recaptured by commodore *Rowley*—Admiral Bertie arrives from the Cape—extraordinary activity of the Admiral to equip the British ships for sea—[illegible] a division from Bourbon—blockades Port Louis—sails for [illegible] by admiral Drury—proceeds to Rodriguez—the division of [illegible] intelligence received of the [illegible]ch of the Bengal division

—the admiral puts to sea—and proceeds directly to Grande Baye—where it is determined the armament shall land—army disembarked in the bay of Mapon—instantly march into the interior—encounter the enemy about five miles from the landing place—halt—loss on the march—the admiral moves forward to keep up a communication with the shore—the army march on the next morning and take up a position at the *Moulin à Poudre*—rest there for the day—the enemy shew themselves and retire—the army advance to the bridge of the Tombeau—which is defended, but carried with a slight loss—Major O'Keefe killed—the road enfiladed by the French: lieutenant-colonel Campbell advances with the flank battalion, dislodges the enemy, but receives a cannon shot in the head—the enemy driven from the remaining battery—enemy pressed to the works of Port Louis—general Abercrombie takes up a position in front of that garrison—flag of truce sent out—capitulation signed and ratified for the surrender of the island—importance of the capture and general reflections.

The events, that the present historical sketch embraces, are of a different order and character from those which are the objects of its ordinary detail. They relate, not merely to military operations against the restless adventurers of a soil, ever fruitful of such produce, not against the weak and timid neighbourhood of native princes, often invaded without cause and always with success, but to hardier and nobler enterprizes, directed in open hostility against a declared foe, invidious of the British pre-eminence in the East, and a rival, not only in temper, but in power and resources; and, therefore, an enemy provoking and justifying assault, and worthy of our contention. This, the higher and more legitimate exercise of the right of war, naturally demands the first attention, and engrosses our earliest notice.

Although France, for a long series of years, has not been permitted to unfurl her flag on the waters that wash three quarters of the civilized world; she has yet engaged, and in many instances mocked, through her insular possessions in the Indian ocean, our naval superiority; has arrested and intercepted our commerce; and has borne it, in spite of all our countervailing efforts, as a rich prize, into the bosom of her ports. With two islands, incapable of maintaining their own population, and with scarcely a friendly harbour of resort, this active and enterprizing power has committed depredations on the dir[illegible] and coasting trade of India, to the amount of some millions sterling.

It is not easy to account for national supineness here, when every where else it has been the struggle and the triumph of our policy to frustrate and destroy the maritime efforts and resources of the enemy. It would appear, even, that France would not now have to experience and lament the loss of her last transmarine dependencies, if it had required any direct exertion of the council, or vigour of the British ministry. It has been left to the governor-general of India, probably under the forcible impression of immediate commercial suffering, or its consequences, at so late a date as the year 1810, to plan and execute a *serious* attack, on the French islands; for the surprize and temporary possession of the Isle of Bourbon, as mentioned in our preceding volume, does not range under this description. The original destination of the force from Bombay, under lieutenant-col. Keating, in 1809, was principally directed with a view to afford protection to his majesty's ships, while seeking occasional refreshment or equipment on the circumjacent coast; and to ascertain by the means which a local station might be expected to furnish, the accessible points to the islands. For this purpose *Rodriguez* was selected and occupied by the commander of the British land [illegible] op-portunity [illegible] enemy by a[illegible] which w[illegible]

and advantageous circumstances detailed in the last volume of the register.

In the spring of 1810, a considerable reinforcement was ordered, by lord Minto, to the troops under the command of lieutenant-colonel Keating; augmenting them from the different Indian presidencies, to 3650 rank and file, of whom one half nearly were Europeans. To the attempt, proposed to be enforced by such numbers, aided also by his Majesty's navy on the station, it was supposed, that little resistance would be offered by the enemy. So confident did the governor-general seem of success, that, in anticipation of the capture, he had nominated a civilian, (Mr. Farquhar) who accompanied the expedition, to the government of the island. The transports, on which the reinforcement was embarked, arrived off Rodriguez on the 20th of June; but it was not until the third of July, from the unfavourable state of the weather, that the expedition could proceed.

Before the troops sailed from Rodriguez, lieutenant-colonel Keating, explained to the commandants of the various brigades, the private information he had received of the enemy's strength and position, and the nature of the attack, he had in consequence, resolved upon. This communication was secretly, and confidentially, made to the brigadiers on the 1st of July, by which it was shewn, that it was the gallant determination of the British commandant, to use his own words; "to strike the first blow, at the very heart of the enemy," leaving farther operations to be guided by contingencies. Instead of landing the British force in the south, or south-east of the island, as expected by the French, and making regular advances, against St. Denis and St. Paul's, colonel Keating directed an immediate assault of the capital, by several attacks of the different brigades, appointed to act in concert, at the same moment; conceiving, as it often happens, that the fortune of the island would depend on the fate of the capital.

The British force, ordered to give effect to this bold design, was divided into four brigades; the first of which was commanded by lieutenant-colonel Fraser, the second by lieutenant-colonel Drummond, the third by lieutenant-colonel Macleod, and the fourth, by lieutenant-colonel Campbell. The last brigade was appointed to the honourable post of the advance, the third, to act as a body of reserve; while the second brigade, was to occupy the batteries at *Possession*, to be reinforced by the third brigade, forming the *rear* column, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Fraser.

Shortly after the communication of the plan of the intended operations to the officers commanding brigades, H. M.'s ship *La Nereide* arrived at Rodriguez, bringing some important information relative to the distribution of the enemy's force; which rendered it necessary for colonel Keating to issue additional instructions, and to alter the order of attack. By the new disposition, the first brigade was converted from a *rear*, or passive corps, to take advantage of adventitious circumstances, into an active and assailing force; and subsequent unforeseen, and uncontrollable events, produced a most essential alteration in the actual operations of the troops, as well as in the original disposal of them; which will be noticed in the proper place.

On the 6th in the afternoon, the whole of the transports, having the British force on board, came to the point of rendezvous, about fifty miles to the windward of the island; when the troops were removed from the private ships on board his majesty's squadron, consisting of the *Boadicea*, *Sirius*, *Iphigenia*, *Magicienne*, and *Nereide*, under the command of commodore Rowley, which stood immediately for the different points of debarkation.

At an early hour in the afternoon of the 7th, most of the ships had arrived at their destined stations, off the island, and made immediate preparations for the landing of the troops.

The beach to the northward of the capital from St. Marie, to within gun-shot of the imperial battery, was

reconnoitred by lieutenant-col. *Campbell*, of H. M.'s 33d regiment, commanding the 4th or advance brigade, and by *captain Willoughby*, of the royal navy; who, from the favourable state of the weather, and the apparent want of strength of the enemy at this point, recommended an immediate debarkation. About 150 light troops of the 4th brigade, with *lieutenant-colonel Campbell* at their head, and a party of seamen, under *captain Willoughby*, were accordingly landed, without loss of time, and reached the shore about four o'clock.

About the same time, and with a like number of troops, *lieutenant-col. Macleod* of H. M.'s 69th regiment, commanding the third brigade, effected a landing somewhat to the right of the troops, previously disembarked under the orders of colonel Campbell.

Scarcely had this comparatively small body of men obtained a footing on the beach, when the wind, which is very uncertain in these latitudes, suddenly and violently increased, staving some of the boats in the act of debarking the men, and rendering the landing of further numbers not only dangerous, but, as the event proved, impracticable. Every measure, which the skill of the commodore could devise, or the intrepidity of the navy execute, were resorted to, but in vain, for the purpose of assisting this part of the expedition, cut off and separated from the main body, from the imminent perilous situation to which it was accidentally exposed. After having exhausted all the ordinary means for effecting the desired purpose, a new experiment was made, by running the *Udney*, a small transport, upon the beach, in the hope that the troops might be enabled to land over her stern, or perhaps, under her lee, but this ingenious contrivance was utterly frustrated by the fury of the elements, though the vessel was conducted to the appointed spot on the beach, by *lieutenant Lloyd*, the second of the *Boadicea*, with the same daring and generally successful spirit, though here unavailing, which usually distinguishes the operations of the British navy. This last attempt failing, all expectation was cut off of succouring the troops on shore, either by additional numbers or supplies, for that evening, and there seemed hardly a possibility of communicating, all that was now left to be achieved, the instructions, necessary in this critical state of things, of the commandant of the expedition to the commanding officer on shore. But what enterprize is above the accomplishment of genuine British courage? Lieutenant *Foulstone*, without awaiting solicitation or orders, bravely and generously volunteered to carry his commander's orders to the shore, and succeeded in a heavy and overwhelming surf, in effecting this wished-for object. Lieutenant-colonel *Macleod*, the commanding officer on the spot, in consequence of the orders thus conveyed, dictated by the unexpected turn of affairs, took possession and occupied *St. Marie* for the night, awaiting reinforcements and further instructions in the morning. In this unpropitious manner, did this the first operation of the expedition proceed. The commanding officer of the troops, and the commandant of the naval forces, alike experienced, in the approaching night, the same apprehensions for the safety of those brave and gallant men, who had commenced so inauspiciously their joint labours for the reduction of the enemy. Not, however, sinking under misfortunes nor discouraged by this unfortunate beginning, the naval and military commandants embraced the first opportunity, and the only expedient that offered itself, for sending, by a circuitous route, since it could not be directly accomplished, the succour and stores, so immediately required by the force lately landed, for the maintenance of its position. Seeing the impracticability of disembarking any more troops to the windward, during the existing state of the weather, which had not abated in its violence, the *Magicienne*, having on board the 2d brigade was dispatched about ten o'clock at night to Grande Chaloupe, to leeward whither it was also determined the the *Boadicea*, the commodore's ship with such transports as had militar

stores on board, should follow on the succeeding morning. Captain Lambert, in the Iphigenia, was ordered to wait in his situation to windward, to take advantage of a favourable change of the weather, if any should occur, to debark a part of the 3d brigade, yet remaining on board his ship, on the beach near St. Marie.

At day light on the 8th, the *Boadicea,* according to this arrangement with the transports, having on board the remainder of the third and fourth brigades, proceeded to and effected a landing at Grande Chaloupe, about 11 o'clock, A. M. on the same morning.

To this point, also, it is now necessary to accompany the first brigade, of which we have for some time lost sight; which having embarked on the *Sirius,* captain *Pym,* and two fast sailing transports, parted company from the squadron, on the evening of the 6th instant, when the men of war and transports, having the other three brigades on board, under the immediate command of commodore Rowley, as immediately described, sailed to their respective destinations.

Captain Pym, with his wonted alacrity and address, availing himself of every advantageous circumstance, which he could force to his favour, conducted this part of the expedition to its position about one o'clock, P. M. on the 7th instant, and had landed nearly the whole before two o'clock the same afternoon.

This brigade, gallantly commanded by lieutenant-colonel Fraser, intended originally as the *rear* of the assailing force, had by the change of the plan of attack, but more by the mode of defence adopted by the enemy, to perform the office, and ordinary duty of the *advance*; and was by its demonstrations and attacks, happily the means of occupying, from the moment of its landing, the whole attention of the French, and thereby diverting it from the forlorn, and helpless condition of our troops landed in the opposite direction.

The French commandant, on perceiving the frigate and transports approaching the shore, dispatched a party of riflemen, to harass the troops in landing; shewing, by the nature of the reception, that it was intended to dispute every inch of ground. *Lieutenant-colonel-Fraser* was among the first that jumped on shore, and so soon as the light company of H. M.'s 86th regiment, commanded by *lieutenant Mc Lean,* supported by the grenadiers of the same corps, under captain Lamphier, could be formed on the beach, they were pushed on, *lieutenant-colonel Fraser* leading the way, against the small portion of the enemy's riflemen, keeping up a continual and galling *fire,* whom they every where dislodged and dispersed, and forced their way to, and took secure possession of the heights. This service was as successfully, as promptly and bravely executed: in which major *Matthews,* of H. M.'s 19th regiment, had the honour to participate as a volunteer.

Feeling himself confident in his footing, *colonel Fraser* halted here, until he was joined by the body of his regiment, when he again moved forward, without waiting for the artillery, sepoys or pioneers, and reaching, with little obstruction, the height above *St. Denis,* he coolly descended towards the fortress, with about 350 bayonets, to watch the enemy's batteries.

At sun-set, which was now fast approaching, having not sufficient light for reconnoitring the ground, nor any hope, from the extreme violence of the surf, of immediate co-operation from the troops landed at another point, *colonel Fraser* prudently determined to postpone his attack on the batteries, until the ensuing morning. He did not, however, discover his designed retreat to the enemy, until it was too dark for him to benefit any thing from the retrograde movement. Colonel *Fraser* then repossessed himself of the height, which he had last quitted; where he took up his position for the night; a post, completely cutting off all communication between the last mentioned garrison and St. Paul's. In the course of the night he was joined by the sepoys, pioneers, and artillery, with a 43-inch howitzer, and some spare ammunition.

At four o'clock, A. M. on the 8th, leaving the sepoys posted on the sum-

mit of the height to protect his rear, from a possible attack from the garrison of *St. Paul's, colonel Fraser*, with his small band, began to descend the mountain, and before his advanced guard had reached the work which the British party had occupied the preceding evening, he was challenged by the enemy's sentries who had been planted to watch his motions. The column, nevertheless, advanced and possessed itself of the position, judiciously selected for that purpose by its commandant on the night before.

At daylight, the enemy was collected in full force, and opened a heavy fire of ordnance and musquetry, on the British column; while his sharp-shooters were detached to harass its flank, on the march. The French force was drawn up on the plain, in two columns, each with a field piece at its head, supported by a number of pieces of heavy cannon, mounted, in dreadful array, on the redoubt. Under a mixed shower of balls, issuing all at once from the many and deep-toned mouths of the ordnance and musquetry, was the truly heroic British party, (so soon as the sun beamed upon it, and discovered it to its anxious countrymen, gazing with admiration from the shipping,) seen winding its slow, steady, and unbroken way adown the mountain, under the cool and determined guidance of its brave leader, until it reached the level of the plain, when instantly the order was given for the charge; and the British grenadiers and light infantry, taking the post of honour, as they are wont, rushed impetuous on the foe, followed closely by their emulous companions in the ranks, and bore every thing down before them.

The enemy, at the commencement of the onset, remained at his guns; but when he saw that their thunder was to be returned by the still, but deadly push of the bayonet, he would not wait the assault, but retiring to the contiguous fortified holds, he endeavoured to screen himself behind the parapets; whence he was driven by the sight of the dreaded weapon in the hands of the grenadiers. The French officer second in command was wounded, and taken prisoner by captain Lampkier, of the grenadiers, and Mr. De Lusanne, the French commandant, being closely pursued, escaped with great difficulty. The neighbouring redoubts, with the artillery upon them, fell one by one in succession, such was the impression made by the intrepidity and success of the charge, almost without opposition, and were immediately converted, by the activity and prudence of the British commandant, from adverse instruments into means of annoyance.

A solitary attempt, after the confusion had subsided, was made by a party of the enemy to retake the principal redoubt, on which the British colours were displayed, but was gallantly repulsed, with the loss of its commanding officer. Thus was the main force of the island repelled and absolutely defeated, it is scarcely credible in narration, by a body of troops, but *British troops!* not amounting in the whole to six hundred men: and these, it must be the ever proud recollection of colonel Fraser, and the grateful sense of his country, that he had the honor to command.

At four o'clock in the same afternoon the enemy sent our a flag of truce to lieutenant-colonel *Fraser*, asking terms for the garrison, which were promptly and peremptorily refused by the brigadier, unless the surrender of the island was included in the conditions. Major *Edwards* of H. M.'s 86th regiment was dispatched to the French head-quarters to bring the capitulation to a short issue. Soon after, or about this time, colonel *Drummond's* brigade, the 2d, had been ordered to assist, and had formed a junction with the first; and colonel *Keating*, having on the same morning arrived off *Grande Chaloupe*, with *Commodore Rowley*, on the *Bodicea*, and having landed his force, prepared to move for the heights, which he attained at two o'clock P. M. and at four o'clock, having given all the necessary and well-adapted instructions to the different bodies of men, now landed from the ships, and in readiness to proceed to their destined points, for the purpose of making a simultaneous

attack on the garrison, was on the very instant of giving the word "advance," when a message was forwarded to him by colonel *Fraser*, with the grateful intelligence, that he had received a trumpet from the enemy, with an officer, demanding a suspension of arms, on the honourable basis of the surrender of the whole island.

The formal capitulation, was not signed by the French commander, and the British naval and military commandant, until the evening of the 9th, which stipulated for the immediate evacuation of all the military posts on the island and the surrender of all public stores; the troops to be held as prisoners of war, and to be embarked at a convenient season, for the Cape, or England— but in consideration of the distinguished character of colonel *Lusanne*, and his officers, and of their gallant defence of the place, the officers of all ranks were allowed to preserve their swords and military decorations.

The ordnance found at St. Denis and St. Paul's alone, amounted to 145 pieces of heavy artillery, with suitable stores.

Thus in a few hours, and by the actual operation of but a handful of men, was the very extensive and valuable colony of Bourbon, or, as recently denominated, the *Isle* of *Buonaparte*, with a population exceeding 100,000 souls, added to the British dominions. In justice, however, to the very able arrangements of the British naval and military commandants, as well as to the spirit shewn by the enemy, it must be admitted, that the event was expedited by the appearances and demonstrations made in every quarter, for more general operations, and which only had been retarded by the unfavorableness of the weather, and afterwards rendered, unnecessary, by the striking and immediately felt impression made by the British grenadiers.

This very brilliant service was effected by the comparatively trifling loss, on the part of the British, of 18 killed and 79 wounded, and those principally of the flank companies of his majesty 86th regiment. Of the former number was lieutenant *John Graham Munro*. And among the latter; major *W. J. Edwards*, lieutenant *M. Creagh*, lieutenant *A. Mc. Lean*, lieutenant *A. K. Blackwall*, lieutenant *J. Webb*, lieutenant *W. R. White*, lieutenant *Spinks*, and lieutenant *Wannell*.

The loss of the enemy, which was very considerable, is not ascertained.*

The thanks due to the perseverance and bravery of the troops, was paid by lieutenant-colonel *Keating* in a general order, on the 9th of July, in which the eminent services of lieutenant-colonel *Fraser*, and lieutenant-colonel *McLeod*, and the forces serving under their respective orders, were distinguishingly mentioned; and repeated afterwards in an official correspondence with the secretary of state, and the supreme government of India, in which also the cheerful co-operative services of the different officers commanding brigades were noticed in becoming terms.

Commodore Rowley, captains Pym, Lambert, Curtis, and Willoughby, and other officers of the naval department, who had opportunities of signalizing themselves in the conduct of this successful enterprise, were spoken of in these dispatches, with the glowing expressions, which military feeling on these occasions is ever happy to use and which naval merit, free from professional jealousy, is always sure to demand.

As the capture of this island formed but a preliminary of the design of the governor-general of India, which had an aspect to the entire reduction of the enemy's power in these seas, preparations were speeding at all the Indian presidences in the interval of the operations, for the pursuit of the ulterior part of the expedition; and means seem to have been employed by

* For the particular detail of the operations of the expedition, see the official correspondence of colonel Keating, from page 25 to 37 inclusive, in the Bengal Occurrences, and the report of lieutenant-colonel Fraser, of the 9th of July, from page 117 to 119 Madras Occurrences.

his lordship to obtain the countenance of the British ministry, and the co-operation of a force from the mother country, for effecting the last grand object—the reduction of the Isle of France.

Intelligence of the early success of his majesty's and the honourable the East India company's arms was received at Madras on the 13th, and at Calcutta on the 24th of August, which gave new energy to the military preparations then urged at those places.

In anticipation of the coming armies, and the expected success from their presence, and elated probably by the recent advantages attendant on the British arms, Mr. Farquhar, the governor of Bourbon, devised, a few days subsequent to the capture, an address, in the form of a proclamation, to the inhabitants of the Isle of France, which he found the means of distributing on the island, from the surprise and capture of the Isle de la Passe, in the night of the 13th of August, by 250 men, landed from his majesty's frigates. This is a small isle, situate at the entrance of the mouth of Port Imperial, commanding an easy communication with, and being only three miles distant from, the main land. This official paper,* after contrasting the good faith and works of the English, with the perfidy and evil deeds of the French—after calling the present sufferings of the inhabitants before their eyes, and the future favours they might expect to enjoy from British connection, after holding out alternate promises and threats, seeks to seduce them from their allegiance to France, and concludes by telling them, that all resistance will be useless and ruinous to themselves and to their property, it being the positive orders, and determined resolution of the British government, to subjugate all quarters and parts of the island by force of arms.

It does not appear that this address to the hopes and fears of the islanders, had any other effect, than of producing a sort of counter-proclamation, addressed to the loyalty of the French inhabitants by their lawful governor. But our attention is called from these circumstances, arising out of the flattery, the pride, and flush of conquest, to the contemplation of events, calculated to excite far less agreeable sensations. We are required, in this place, to recount, however unusual and painful the task, the temporary discomfiture of our naval superiority, in this very vital part, where its existence seemed essentially necessary to the security of the acquisition made, as well as a means, if not the only, the almost indispensable means of future conquest.

Our frigates, commanded by the most enterprising officers, which had, for a long time, sealed up in his own ports, the greater part of the enemy's naval force, while our expeditions were employed in the capture of his most valuable possessions, were now, sad reverse, compelled, from the chance of fortune, and of war, both unfavourably combining, to abandon their commanding situations, and for a while to refrain, not an ordinary incident, from courting and forcing contest.

The sailing of the French squadron, the Bellona, Minerva, and Victor corvette, on a cruize, under the French commodore, Duperre, in the month of March preceding, had principally occasioned the temporary ascendancy of the British naval force off the islands; but the time now approached for the return of this squadron, with accessional strength, which was to give a decided turn to the balance of naval power, on the side of the French.

On the 20th of July the French commodore appeared off the south-east of the Isle of France, in the Bellona, in company with the *Minerva* frigate, *Victor*, sloop of war, and the *Windham* and *Ceylon*† Indiamen, captured, with several country ships, in

* See p. 46, Bengal Occurrences.

† These ships, with the *Astell*, another company's ship, then sailing under the orders of commodore Meriton, commander of the Ceylon, were attacked, on the 3d of July, by the French division, just described, in their voyage from the Cape of Good Hope to Madras, in the inner passage, near the island of Johanna, and sustained a very

the course of the cruize. On nearing the isle de Passe, the commodore discovered the French National flag flying, with a signal advising him, "that the enemy was cruizing at the Coin de Mire." A ship with three masts, was discerned lying at anchor, under the guns of the fort, also bearing the like National flag. Not suspecting that the island was in the possession of the English, the commodore gave the necessary orders, for his division to make the best of their way to port Imperial, and directed the *Corvette*, and the *Minerva*, to take the lead, and communicate, in passing, with the ship off the isle. The Corvette in doubling the fort, received a broadside from the strange ship, and from the battery on shore; both hoisting at the same moment English colours. This unlooked-for reception, occasioned considerable confusion in the enemy's division; but profiting by the first return of order, the French commodore, made signal to the ships under his command, to keep close to windward; but the *Minerva* and *Ceylon*, being by this time near the *isle de Passe*, had no means of avoiding, in their passage to the harbour, the fire of the English frigate and battery, but yet gained their anchorage without any material injury, followed at a little distance, by the commodore in the *Bellona*; who venturing not within the range of the British guns, exchanged a complimentary, rather than an hostile broadside, with the shore. The *Windham*, being in the rear, and shewing some indecision, as to her future course, hovered about the mouth of the passage, sailing on and off, and was, in that uncertain state, cut off from the division, and recaptured by the *Sirius*, captain Pym, who had received intelligence of the enemy's return, and had watched an opportunity for practising this successful manœuvre.

Captain Pym, having dispatched his prize to Bourbon, set all sail and shaped a feigned course to the southward, not to alarm the enemy in Port Louis, in order to mask his intended operations. Although he had by this stratagem to traverse more way, in very rough weather, he yet had the good fortune to join the *Nereide* off the isle de Passe at noon on the 22d, in order to concert measures with the commander of the latter vessel, for the annoyance of the enemy. After reconnoitring the position chosen by the French force, which was very advantageously taken, admitting of a constant communication with the shore, captain Pym, notwithstanding this manifest superiority of the enemy's situation and force, determined on an immediate attack. The Nereide, having made the signal of her being ready, and a pilot having been sent from this ship on board the *Sirius*, they both proceeded, with undaunted courage and in gallant bearing, to encounter the enemy; and had arrived within a mile of his line, when, from the force of the current, or error in the pilot, in tracing the course of the channel, or some inevitable, unknown cause, the *Sirius* suddenly ran aground on the shoal of the *Petite Passe*; and in despite of all remedial efforts, could not be liberated from that distressing situation, until eight o'clock the next morning.

The enemy, apprised by the movement just made, and so unhappily disappointed, of the design of the British cruisers, sent on board the French commodore immediate reinforcements of seamen, who had been marched for that purpose overland from a port on the opposite side of the island. *General Decaen*, the governor of the island, dispatched also a strong naval aid, in the frigates, *Astrea*, *Venus*, and *La Manche*; under the command of captain *Hammelin*, from port Napoleon, to

gallant and hard-fought action with this very superior force for several hours, when two of them, having suffered a most serious loss in killed and wounded, and much injury in their hull, masts, and rigging, were compelled to strike to the enemy. The *Astell* was fortunate enough to effect her escape, under cover of the night. For the particulars of this gallant affair, see the letters of captain Stewart, of the Windham, p. 61 of the Bengal Occurrences, and of captain Hay, p. 60 of the same Occurrences, and subsequently, at pages 107-8.

port Imperial, but not with so certain a conviction, as in the force forwarded by land, that it would prove a seasonable assistance.

These efforts, on the part of the enemy, were at the instant more than countervailed by a direct and immediate reinforcement of the British force, in the arrival of the *Iphigenia* and *Magicienne*, on the 23d at noon.*

Though captain *Pym* had thought himself fully competent before, with the sole aid of the *Nereide*, to the destruction of the French division, at its anchorage, by a sudden and unexpected attack; he did not feel himself justified, since his intention had been discovered, and the enemy had obtained considerable reinforcements, and had strengthened his position, by moving further in shore, in declining any part of the advantage now in his power, for the purpose of converting, what he might consider a rational and promising attempt, into a seeming certainty.

Still, however, his altered and bettered means did not induce him to overlook the common dictates of caution, and the possible obstacles to be opposed to him. He assembled on board the *Sirius*, and consulted with, the captains and pilots of the respective frigates, who had any knowledge of the local waters and coast; when the judgment of all present concurred in declaring that the British division might be safely brought in contact with the French; and as to the result, it appeared not to admit of question or debate.

Being confirmed in his own first council, by the concurrent opinions of his brave companions, captain *Pym* immediatey gave orders for the attack of the enemy, having assigned to each ship its particular place, the *Sirius* aboard the *Bellona*, the *Nereide* between the *Sirius* and *Victor*, the *Iphigenia* on board the *Minerva*, and the *Magicienne* between the *Minerva*, and the company's ship, *Ceylon*.

With hearts glowing with genuine native courage, and grateful for the opportunity of displaying it; with spirits suited to victory, and with minds anticipating it; each gallant commander, rivalling one another in friendly contest, was seen immediately in motion on the wave, directing his obedient ship, with a steady nerve and hand, to the honourable post allotted to it. The French batteries, lining the shore, and the guns on their decks, all at once opened their heavy and consuming fire, and the shot, spreading like hail, scattered far and wide, aiming, and threatening destruction to the slow approaching, and as yet non-avenging foe. In the midst of the enemy's hottest assault, the British frigates were observed, with grand and terrific emotions from the shore, sailing, as it were, through flames, and resolutely holding their way in the fiery tempest, with an unaltered pace, by the mere unaided impulse of the wind. Reaching at length the welcomed and well-measured spot, the British frigates, as if by preconceived concert, poured their irresistible broadsides at once on the astonished enemy.

The *Iphigenia* first came to her station, and let loose her fire on the *Minerva*, in so impetuous a shower, that the enemy, unable to sustain its fury, cut his cable, and dropped helpless on the shore. The *Magicienne*, bearing up at the instant, to aid her consort, and to level her destructive fire against the Ceylon, (Indiaman,) was in the act of opening her guns, when she struck on a hidden rock, and lay motionless in the water.

In the meanwhile the *Sirius*, intent on the honor of engaging the ship bearing the French commander's flag, urged onwards for the purpose, closely accompanied by the brave captain of the *Nereide*, who, availing himself of an accidental and partial breeze, shot somewhat ahead of his gallant leader, and came near astern of the *Bellona*. The Iphigenia directed her fire alternately at the *Victor* and the *Minerva*, while the *Nereide* threw her whole and

* The *Sirius* and *Nereide*, were at anchor not far from the enemy's line, and in advance of the place, where the former ship had struck, when the last-mentioned frigates appeared, and prepared to get under weigh, as they gradually approached.

frequent broadside into the French commodore, and the *Sirius* in her way to close the enemy, brought every assailable gun to bear, in the same direction. The battle now raged, and the roar of cannon reverberated from side to side, when the French commander, like his colleague of the Minerva, perceiving the danger of contact with the British force, removed distantly from its touch by seeking safety on the strand. At this not to be mistaken symptom of the panic-struck enemy, the *Sirius* rushed forward to give the blow, that seemed alone requisite to complete the nearly-accomplished purpose, and stretching onward to inflict it, and seize the earnest of victory, was in that proud, but deceitful moment, dashed violently on a shoal, leaving the *Nereide,* exposed to the galling and incessant fire of the enemy. The *Sirius* took the ground so unfortunately, that, instead of being able in her situation to render assistance, she served only to draw a part of the fire of the enemy, intended for herself, on her brave and suffering companion.

The *Iphigenia* apprised, by the sad fate of two of her comrades, of the bearing of the shoal, could not attempt a nearer approach, but continued, (all that she was able to effect,) a distant but well-directed fire; the *Sirius* and *Magicienne,* as occasion offered, bringing now and then a solitary gun to the service of the oppressed, and overpowered NEREIDE.

This single vessel, deprived of all active co-operation from her friends, fought with a courage, worthy of her cause and country, and maintained an unequal contest for the almost incredible space of ten hours, and did not stay her fire until her gallant commander, captain *Willoughby,* and every man on board, had been swept from off her deck, not one of her intrepid crew but who was wounded or killed.

The action commenced at 5 o'clock in the afternoon of the 23d, and on the 24th at day break, the enemy sent a boat's crew to take possession of the wreck of the *Nereide,* and to remove the dying and the dead. During this latter and painful interval, exciting how many various and conflicting passions, the British leader of the enterprize, and the commander of the *Magicienne,* exhausted every effort, that skill or bravery could suggest, to interpose in the raging and unequal conflict, but these efforts were rendered ineffectual by causes, out of human wisdom and human exertion to controul. But though victory deluded the grasp of the British commander; the triumph of courage, and of prudence, that accommodates itself to circumstances, and makes advantage of all beyond the power of capricious fortune, was conspicuously his. Seeing that every attempt was vain to relieve the *Sirius* and the *Magicienne* from the shoal; and that the enemy had for the whole of the day kept up a constant fire on the latter frigate, effecting occasional mischief to the ship and crew, captain *Pym,* with the advice of a council of officers, resolved to set fire to that vessel, that it might not be converted, by the enemy's more available and convenient means, into a future instrument of war. This necessary, and afflicting service was executed at eleven o'clock the same night.

On the next morning (the 25th) having no hope of relief, nor any prospect of a successful resistance, the *Sirius,* being prevented from her situation of returning the enemy's fire with more than two guns, her patient and brave commander was obliged to abandon her, not to the enemy, but her fate. Having first dispatched the whole of the ship's company to the *Isle de Passe,* or transferred them to the Iphigenia, he prepared himself for the last, the severest office of his command, and, assisted only by his lieutenant, applied with his own hand the lighted match, to the heart of the gallant vessel, that had so lately constituted his hope and his pride. What must have been the tender sentiment of such a moment?

The *Iphigenia,* the only remaining British frigate, was now ordered to the Isle de Passe to co-operate in defence of the place, with the land force and

the seamen lately disembarked from the ships. With some difficulty she was warped to her station off the island, none of the enemy's vessels making any shew, or being capable of any real effort to intercept her course. In this situation, and without the power, from the state of the wind, of removing from it, the *Iphigenia* lay until the morning of the 27th; when captain *Hammelin*, who, had been dispatched as before noticed, from Port Napoleon, on the 23d, with the *Astrea, Venus* and *La Manche* appeared off Port Imperial; and summoned captain *Lambert*, and the small garrison on shore to surrender at discretion. On the same evening a second summons was sent by general *Decaen*, addressed from on board the French frigate Minerva, setting forth the helpless and insolated situation of the British party, and the utter impossibility of its receiving any succour, and concluding with a repetion of the first demand. An official correspondence* succeeded, and was interchanged between captain Lambert, gen. Decaen, and the French commodore, which terminated in the surrender of the frigate and garrison, on as honorable terms as could be expected to be procured under the forlorn circumstances of the case.

On the 29th in the morning, the French flag was rehoisted on the Isle de Passe; and gave the first communication to captain *Rowley*, commanding the *Boadicea*, then the only remaining frigate on the station, of the discomfiture of the British division; and of the necessity of his immediately abandoning the blockade of the French port.

The French naval force, being now ascendant in these seas, left their harbours and their hiding places, whither they had been driven by the incessant and unsparing chace of the British squadron, and now assuming a front and confidence, correspondent with their conceived strength, were the assailants in their turn, and blockading the port of Bourbon, threatened to cut off its supplies, hourly expected from India, and to starve the new British acquisition into unqualified subjection. Several transports laden with stores were captured in the passage, and sent to the Mauritius, where the provisions with which they were freighted, were much wanted. The l'Astrée and the Iphigeniâ, took up their position off Bourbon, on the 10th of September.

The appearance of the latter ship under the French flag, told but too plainly, the sad events that had preceded, and of which, till that moment, the British government had been uninformed.

Captain *Rowley* arrived at St. Paul's about the same time at which the enemy appeared off Bourbon, waiting for a reinforcement, but not anticipating any certain succour, which might afford him adequate means to check the effrontery of the enemy, to clear the British ports from molestation, and to drive him once more within his own seas. On the 12th of September, within two days after his return to the island, under the mortifying circumstances explained, the commodore had the unexpected good fortune to hear of the arrival at *St. Denis*, of his majesty's frigate the *Africaine*, from England, under the command of capt. *Corbett*. The *Boadicea* was immediately prepared for sea, and accompanied by the *Otter* sloop of war, and *Staunch* gun brig, proceeded to join the *Africaine*, for the purpose of attacking the French frigates, who stood off to sea, so soon as the British force was discovered, with a fresh breeze to the Eastward. The enemy's ships had the advantage of the wind, the English division being subjected, from their relative situation, to light and baffling westerly airs. The *Africaine* experiencing, after a short interval, a favourable but partial breeze, came before the fall of evening close to the enemy, and lost not sight of him in any part of the night; maintaining during the chace a communication with the *Boadicea*, by means of

* Vid. the letters of *general Decaen, commodore Hammelin*, and captain *Lambert*, page 65, and 66. Bengal Occurrences.

night signals. Captain *Corbett*, before it was dark, had manifested so much superiority in sailing, that he felt himself justified in shortening sail within gun shot of the enemy, apparently with a view of waiting the *Boadicea's* coming up. At 3 *o'clock* the next morning, the latter ship being then astern of the *Africaine* about four or five miles, capt. Corbett, either despairing of the *Boadicea's* approach, or that it might not be effected in time, or possibly finding himself carried by a sudden squall into the midst of the enemy, commenced, by design, or from necessity, it is not known which, a firing from the Africaine. At this moment the wind unfortunately changing, and suddenly dying away, left the *Africaine* between the two French frigates, in an unfavourable situation, and exposed, in an unmanageable state, to the broadsides of both ships, one of them constantly raking her with a destructive fire. She sustained the unequal conflict for more than an hour, with an ardour and gallantry never surpassed, when, after an unavailing resistance, and a most serious loss, she was compelled to strike to a far stronger and superior foe. There were 170 killed and wounded during the short, but animated action; and among the former was numbered the intrepid commander of the Africaine.

The governor of Bourbon in describing the result of this brilliant, but unfortunate event, speaks also with the deepest regret, "of the death of capt. *Elliott*, who, together with major *Barry*, embarked on board the Africaine as volunteers, while in sight of the enemy. These two officers greatly distinguished themselves by their exertion on the quarter deck, during the sanguinary contest which took place. About the middle of the action, capt. *Elliott* received three musket balls in his head, which put an end to his existence; and major *Barry*, remaining on the quarter deck, *one* out of *three* who had not been either killed or wounded during the engagement, was taken prisoner, and carried to the Isle of France."

Such were the immediate unfortunate circumstances of the action; in which commodore *Rowley* was not near enough to take a part, or to judge of the result, though he had the mortification to be not so far distant from the scene, but that he could distinctly hear the commencement, and cessation of the firing, which denoted its duration. His suspense was not suffered to be long, for at a quarter past four o'clock in the morning, the firing discontinued; and the day, dawning soon after, discovered the *Africaine* an afflicting sight, with her shattered masts and rigging in the possession of, and under the national flag of France: the *Astrea* and the *Iphigenia*, but particularly the former, did not appear to have sustained any visible injury from the engagement. This circumstance, joined with the critical position of naval affairs, and a certain knowledge that the enemy had other cruisers in this quarter, did not seem to warrant the commodore in hazarding an immediate attack on the French frigates, if it had been in his option to bring them directly to action. He observed a more prudent and safer conduct, by appearing for a moment to avoid the combat, and by shaping a course towards the *Otter* sloop, and *Staunch* gun brig, at that time to leeward; the enemy not attempting or discovering, any desire to intercept him in his intention. Having rejoined these vessels, and considering himself justified, with this small reinforcement, to try his strength with the enemy, the British commodore bore up, with a determination to give him battle, which he thought proper to decline; abandoning his new capture, without an effort to preserve it, and with the greater part of the original crew on board, amounting to 148 men, 65 of whom were wounded. The Africaine, at the time of the recapture, was in charge of a French commissioned officer, and nine ordinary seamen.

The *Commodore* did not pursue the flying enemy, but was satisfied to return with his crippled consort, having scarcely a mast standing, to the first British port, whither he brought the unfortunate *Africaine* in tow, on the morning

of the 18th of September, if not with any accession of honour, with the pleasing consciousness of having lost none.

The port of Bourbon had been scarcely delivered from the first blockade, by the prompt exertions of *Commodore Rowley*, when a fresh French force, consisting of the *La Venus* frigate of 44 guns, and the *Victor* corvette, took their station off that place, to continue the blockade, and prevent the receipt of supplies from India.

In the night of the 17th September, his majesty's frigate the Ceylon, having general *Abercromby* on board, commissioned by the governor-general to take upon himself the command of the troops destined for the reduction of the Isle of France, arrived off *Bourbon*, and was about to enter the port, when she was encountered by the French cruisers. An action immediately ensued, and was maintained with the greatest gallantry by the Ceylon, captain *Gordon*, for the space of five hours; when the Ceylon being dismasted, and being rendered ungovernable by this and other causes, was compelled to submit to adverse fortune, and to overwhelming force. This, however, was the last defeat that the British flag was doomed to experience in these seas; and which it is about, as it will be seen, to retaliate, under the most unparalleled disadvantages, on the temporarily triumphant colours of the enemy. It seemed as if fortune had depressed, in a humourous moment, the proud spirit of the British navy, in order to render its very weakness the instrument of establishing its superiority.

No sooner had the British commander come to an anchor in the roads of St. Paul's, on the morning of the 18th, than he descried three sail in the offing, apparently in a disabled state. He gave instant orders to the *Otter* and *Staunch* to weigh and to follow the *Boadicea* to sea, in pursuit of the strange sail. After clearing the bay, a fresh and favourable breeze sprang up, which brought the *Boadicea* so near to the chace, as to enable her to distinguish very accurately that two of the ships a-head were enemy's vessels, one of them having an English man of war in tow. The commodore nearing the *Corvette*, which he knew to be the *Victor* towing her prize, the latter cast off the ship in her wake, which proved to be the Ceylon, to the mercy of her pursuer, and made all sail to escape. The third ship was discovered to be an Imperial frigate, of forty-four guns, then under courses, her top-mast shot away; yet, nevertheless bearing up, with a shew at least of an intention to protect her recent capture, and taking a position to render her support. The Boadicea, on this manœuvre, ran alongside the enemy's frigate, which after a "short close," as it is emphatically described by the commodore, surrendered herself and her booty to her irresistible adversary. The captured frigate turned out to be the *La Venus*, forty-four guns, with a crew, on leaving port, of three hundred and fifty men. The loss of La Venus, in the short but hot rencontre, was nine killed and seventeen wounded. The number of wounded on the part of the British man of war were only two, with not a single life lost.

The *Ceylon*, having *General Abercromby* on board, was taken possession of without firing a gun. Thus the brave and judicious British commander had the rare fortune and satisfaction of rescuing two of his majesty's frigates, almost it may be said with a single ship, from the grasp of an enemy of very superior force, and adding one of his finest frigates to the then reduced and slender means of the British navy, within the short space of a few successive hours: and what, perhaps, may not be deemed a secondary service, of redeeming a gallant general, on whose skill and enterprise his country confidently relied for the conquest of the enemy's last remaining colony in the east, with the military and naval power dependent on it; restoring also to the ports of Bourbon a protective force, calculated to secure them from the indignity, lately experienced, of a blockading and insulting foe.

From this time affairs put on a

smiling aspect, and seemed to promise continued success. The eye turns with pleasure from these mixed adventures of evil and of good, to trace the improving circumstances of the British establishment in these seas, and the reviving pre-eminence of the navy.

While *Commodore Rowley* was actively employed in advantaging himself of the new naval means, resulting to him from his recent captures, in repairing the losses of his Majesty's ships, and converting the enemy's frigate into an effective force to be employed against him; to which desirable objects the British seamen, and the abundant stores found on board the recaptures and *La Venus*, eminently supplied, the *Nisus* frigate, bearing *Admiral Bertie's* flag, arrived from the Cape, and added new vigour to the service then pursuing. The admiral was the precursor of a considerable naval and military force, ordered by the ministry at home to proceed to India, for the purpose of acting in conjunction with a large body of troops, from the different Indian presidencies; of which some notice has been taken in an earlier page. These various armaments were all moving to the place of general rendezvous, at the moment of which we are speaking; having left the India harbours much about the date, at which the *Nisus* departed from the Cape of Good Hope.

Unwilling to retard the progress of the narrative, by recounting the difficulties that presented themselves, and that were successively overcome by the patient and persevering labour of the seamen, in changing the masts from ship to ship, and equipping the almost newly-created navy for fresh pursuits and conquests, we shall briefly state, that by the 14th of October, such was the activity and success of the service, the admiral had the gratification of leading, from the harbour of St. Paul's, in complete condition and force, to meet the enemy, the *Boadicea, Africaine, Ceylon, Nisus, and Nereide,* (lately the *Venus*) forming as fair and gallant a squadron, as had ever issued from a British port; and with these he immediately sailed to the Isle of France to resume the blockade of the island, taking with him *Major-general Abercromby* to reconnoitre the defences of the French colony, and to concert the necessary measures for its reduction.

The admiral arrived off *Port Louis* on the 19th of October, and perceiving that the whole of the enemy's naval force was anchored in that port, two of them only in a state of apparent readiness for sea, he detached the *Ceylon* and *Staunch* to convoy the division of troops, to be employed on the destined service, from Bourbon to *Rodriguez*, and leaving Captain *Rowley* with the *Boadicea, Nisus,* and *Nereide,* to watch the movements of the enemy, and to blockade his port, he himself proceeded, with the general, to the last-mentioned anchorage, where the joint forces, from India and the Cape, were appointed to assemble.

On the 24th, at sea, the admiral fell in with a British squadron, sailing to the same point, under the command of *Rear-Admiral Drury*, consisting of the *Russell, Clorinde, Doris, Phaeton, Bucephalus, Cornelia,* and *Hesper*; the two latter of which ships he ordered to *Port Louis,* to reinforce the blockading division off that port, and then directed his course towards *Rodriguez*, where he arrived on the 3d of November. The Bombay troops, who had first reached their destination, were in readiness to receive him on his arrival. Within three days afterwards, the division from Madras, under convoy of the *Psyche* and *Cornwallis*, came to the same station, and were followed, on the 12th, by the troops from Bourbon, under charge of the *Ceylon.* In the interim, *Admiral Drury*, with the *Bucephalus, Phaeton,* and *Russell,* being regarded as a superabundant force, was dismissed to the resumption of his proper command in the Indian seas.

The 20th of November now arrived, and the divisions from Bengal and the Cape had not yet made their appearance; a circumstance that occasioned some anxiety to the admiral, acquainted as he was with the violent and variable winds of these latitudes,

the stormy season fast approaching, and the consequent hourly danger of his anchorage, with so extensive a fleet under his command; exposed, as it would be, in the event of unfavourable weather, to reefs, surrounding it on every side. Under the influence of these mixed considerations, he thought it advisable to suggest to the general, in which suggestion he acquiesced, the prudence of standing out to sea, with the troops already assembled, and, cruising to the windward of the French island, await, in that situation, the junction of one or other of the divisions, which had been for some time anxiously expected. The 22d was appointed as the day for the departure of the fleet from Rodriguez, and every thing was in a state of preparation and readiness for that event; when, on the 21st, at night, the welcome intelligence was received, that the Bengal division, under convoy of the *Illustrious*, was seen in the offing. Desirous that not a moment should be lost, the naval and military commanders resolved, that the convoy, just arrived, should be supplied with the requisite provisions from the beach and the shipping, and, without dropping anchor, be ordered to accompany the fleet, then getting under weigh, to the Isle of France. The numerous vessels of war and transports, soon after the issuing of the necessary order, forming one undivided body, stood from the anchorage of Rodriguez to the selected point of debarkation, in *Grande Baye*, about twelve miles to windward of *Port Louis*. This spot had been chosen with great judgment, founded on an actual survey of the coast, a service which had been effected by the unwearied and successful exertions of captain *Paterson*, of his majesty's ship *Hesper*, and of lieutenant *Street*, commanding the government armed-ship *Emma*, from repeated soundings, taken in the night-time, to avoid the observation of the enemy.

The fleet, consisting of nearly 70 sail, came to anchor at 10 o'clock on the morning of the 29th of November, in a narrow passage, formed by the small island called the Gunner's Coin, and the main-land, presenting many openings through the reefs, by which, it had been ascertained, that several boats might enter abreast. The facility of effecting a landing here counterbalanced all objections arising out of the distance of the place from the principal object of attack. An immediate debarkation was decided on. This important service, and the landing of the stores for the use of the military, was confided to, and conducted by captain *Beavor* of the *Nisus*, with unwearied zeal, and consummate skill and judgment. It commenced shortly after one o'clock in the afternoon, and the whole of the troops, with their artillery, stores, and ammunition, the several detachments of marines, and a large body of seamen, amounting in the whole to 11,000 men, were disembarked, without opposition, in the Bay of *Mapon*, in the course of three hours, without loss, or even a single accident; the enemy retiring, on the first and unexpected appearance of the British fleet, from Fort *Malartic*, situate at the head of the Bay, the only fortified spot in the vicinity.

The army had been brigaded, previous to the debarkation, in the following manner: The reserve, commanded by lieutenant-colonel *Keating*, consisting of a flank battalion, (composed of the 12th and 33d flank companies, the two companies of the 56th, and a company of the 14th and 89th detachments;) the 84th regiment, and captain *Imlach's* detachment of Bombay Native troops: the first brigade under colonel *Picton*, composed of the 12th and 22d regiments, and the right wing of the Madras volunteer battalion; the second brigade under colonel *Gibbs*, comprised the 59th regiment, 300 of the 89th, and a company of the 87th, formed into a battalion under major *Butler* of the 89th, with the left wing of the Madras volunteer battalion; the third brigade, under colonel *Kelso*, consisted of the 14th regiment, and 2d Bengal volunteers; the fourth brigade, commanded by colonel *McLeod*, was formed of the 69th regi-

ment, and Madras native flank battalion, with 300 marines, and the 5th brigade of the 65th regiment, a troop of the 25th dragoons, and the first battalion of the Bengal volunteers, under colonel *Smith*.

The troops, on the instant of landing, were put in motion; the general being anxious to clear the extreme edge of a thick wood, which lay in his way, before the fall of night, to prevent the enemy from possessing it, and employing the natural means afforded by it, by harassing his flanks on the march.

The 5th brigade, being directed to protect and secure the landing place, with orders to follow with the stores, and ammunition, on the succeeding day; and the rest of the force being formed on the beach, the general gave the order to advance, and the column moved on about four o'clock in the afternoon. The road for three miles lay along the coast towards Cannonier Point, turning at a short distance from the battery *Malartic*, in an abrupt angle, through a strong and almost impenetrable wood, which lies between the coast and the high road, leading from *Port Louis* into the interior parts of the country on that side of the island. The troops forced their way, for full four miles, through the thick brush-wood, entangling their feet at every step, followed by the seamen and natives, dragging on with incessant labour and almost intolerable toil, the artillery and public stores. They had the good fortune in the event to succeed in gaining the skirt of the wood and the more open country without any serious opposition. Just, however, at the opening of the wood into the plain, a picquet of the enemy had been posted, on which the British advance came so silently, that it was taken apparently by surprise; and, after an effort to dispute the passage of the troops, by a faint and irregular fire, was soon driven from its position, yet not before it had attempted, but ineffectually, to set fire to the wood. Two grenadiers were killed, and colonel *Keating*, at the head of the flank battalion, and lieutenant *Ash*, of the 12th, with an inconsiderable number of privates, were wounded in this rencontre.

The march just performed by the troops, was extremely harassing in its circumstances, though short in its space and duration. The heat of the weather, and the deficiency of water, which was scarcely to be procured, greatly increased the fatigues and difficulties of the way. Several men and two officers, employed in the arduous but useful task of bringing up the artillery and stores, sunk under the excessive heat and labour of the day, and were left dead on the march. Among the latter were lieutenant Dove, of the 14th regiment, and captain Yates, of the City of London, Indiaman; who, with captain *Nesbit*, of the *Huddart*, had gallantly volunteered their individual aid, and the assistance of their respective crews, in forwarding the public service.

On passing the borders of the wood, as immediately noticed, the general encamped, but, guarding against surprise, ordered the troops to lay upon their arms for the night.

While these military movements were in progress, the admiral, having first left a division of his squadron for the protection of his convoy at the anchorage, shifted the station of the remainder of the fleet, under his more immediate command, according to the motions of the army; maintaining a constant and effectual communication with it, as it advanced, agreeably to a plan previously settled with general Abercromby, who was necessarily and wholly dependant for his supplies and stores, on the resources of the navy.

On the morning of the 30th, the troops having been refreshed by a few hours rest prepared to pursue their route, according to orders, to *Port Louis*, which it was supposed that they might reach on the same evening; but it was soon perceived, from the languor of the troops, by the exertion of the preceding day, and from the continuing sultry weather and want of water, in the course of the route, that this desirable object could not be accomplished within the time appointed.

At the end of a march of only five miles, the column was in consequence halted, at the *Moulin a Poudre*, on the banks of a small river called the *Pamplemousses*, which ran in front of the position nearly a mile, and remote from the enemy's strongest post about five times that distance. The men, in effecting this comparatively short march, suffered extremely, and principally from the pressure of thirst, no water being procurable, although the country around was highly cultivated, but from wells attached to private dwellings, scattered widely from one another, on either side of the road; and these being filled from slender springs, offered a scanty supply of this necessary article to the parched tongue of the soldiery; so that many, rather than increase their fatigue by seeking a temporary and partial refreshment, chose rather to endure the present and consuming evil of thirst. It was fortunate that to these distressing circumstances was not added the opposition of the enemy, who allowed the troops hitherto to move without resistance, and left them, in the new position they had taken up, from the hurry in which he had evacuated it, on the approach of the British force, a large supply of cattle, chiefly bullocks, affording the much-wanted means of fresh and nourishing provisions.

On the afternoon of this day, general *Decaen* made his appearance in front of the British line, at the head of a party of cavalry and riflemen, sent forward to reconnoitre, and received, as he approached, a slight contusion on his leg. The party, from the inequality of the ground, came near to the British picquets, before it was observed, which occasioned them for a moment to retire; but being immediately supported by the riflemen of the 59th, they drove the enemy back with some loss, dispersing them in every quarter.

In the evening of the 30th, the rear guard, having marched from the landing place before sun-rise, joined the main army, having been obliged to leave many of their comrades on the ground, fainting under the oppressive circumstances of the road.

Before day-light of the first of December, lieutenant-colonel M'Cleod was detached with his brigade to seize the batteries at *Tombeau* and *Tortue* Bays, to open and preserve a communication between the different descriptions of his majesty's forces; and shortly after the principal body of the troops was seen in motion in the same direction. The British column proceeded without any molestation for two miles, until it arrived at the bridge over the *Tombeau*; at which place the advance of the enemy, consisting of about 300 men, with two field-pieces, were posted to defend the passage of the river; but who were expeditiously dislodged by a few *Shrapnell* shells, judiciously directed by our artillery. The enemy deserted his post so suddenly, that he had not time to destroy the bridge; but it was left in a state, which allowed the troops to pass readily over it, yet so far impaired as to preclude the conveyance of the artillery by the same medium. At a point somewhat lower in the river the heavy guns found, with some difficulty, a passage to the opposite bank. This first service was executed with not much numeral loss, though of great individual merit. While animating his men to victory, and shewing them, by his personal courage and zeal, the certain and unerring path to it, major *O'Keefe*, at the head of the 12th regiment, received a cannon-shot in his head, which instantaneously terminated his useful and valuable life.

Having crossed the *Tombeau*, the army moved rapidly forward to a second river, the *Sèche*; but had to pass, in the intermediate way, through a narrow road, skirted on either side by a thick underwood. The enemy, as might be expected, availed himself of this natural advantage; and accordingly disposed, in commanding situations, some pieces of heavy artillery, on each side of the road, which were kept concealed, until the head of the British column was fully exposed to the range of his guns; when a destruc-

tive fire was opened from the flanking batteries of grape and musquetry, checking for awhile the regular march of the troops. The interruption was but momentary; for the advanced guard, consisting of an European flank battalion, under the command of lieut. col. *Campbell* of his majesty's 33d regiment, after a slight and scarcely perceptible pause, moved forward with undaunted spirit, and forming on the ground to the left of the road, with as much regularity, as the broken surface would admit, rushed forward with irresistible force, driving the enemy from his fortified position, with the loss of all his guns, and of a considerable number in killed and wounded. In this gallant and successful charge, the British general and his country had to regret the loss of lieutenant-col. *Campbell,* who was killed by a grape shot at the head of his battalion, and in the very act of giving the orders, which secured to his brave followers the well-earned meed of their valour.

In the interim of these operations, a second British party took up ground on the right of the road, in the midst of the enemy's fire, and pressing on, with the same impetuosity and bravery as had distinguished their gallant comrades on the left, secured the like advantages, by forcing the enemy to retire from his lines, and possessing themselves of his artillery. The loss of the French, in this short but smart action, exceeded one hundred.

The victorious British troops pursued the flying enemy to the borders of the river *Lataniers,* close to the outworks of *Port Louis*; where they were ordered to halt. As this position was discovered to be within the range of the enemy's batteries, the British advance was recalled to join the main body, at a short distance in their rear, which was arranged in several lines parallel to each other, in front of the enemy's works, the left resting on the long mountain. The army remained in this situation for the night, unmolested by the enemy.

In the morning of the 2d, while general *Abercromby* was employed in making arrangements for detaching a corps to the southern side of the town, and giving directions for a general attack, a flag of truce was sent to the British camp by general *Decaen,* proposing a capitulation; the terms of which were personally submitted by the general to admiral *Bertie,* then on board the *Africaine*; and after some discussion and modification, were returned to the French governor. These were ultimately settled and ratified at the British head-quarters, the 3d of December, on the terms amended and returned on the joint suggestion of the naval and military commanders-in-chief; the commissioners appointed by the British being major-general *Henry Warde,* and commodore *Josias Rowley,* and on the behalf of the French, general *Vandermaesen,* and capt. *Victor Duperre.** The principal condition allowed in favour of the enemy, and which was humanely granted to spare the effusion of blood, was, that his troops should not be considered as prisoners of war, but permitted to return to European France, at the expence of the British government, with their arms and baggage.

The articles of capitulation, in other respects, differed very little from the ordinary stipulations on the behalf of a vanquished enemy, under similar circumstances. With the reserve specified, this last and important colony of the French, with the naval and military means attached to it, and public stores of every denomination, were surrendered to his Majesty's arms, and to the complete possession of the British troops, who were immediately marched for the purpose of occupying Port Louis, and the different fortifications of the island.†

Besides the valuable ordnance, stores,

* While the preliminaries were adjusting, the transports, bearing the troops from the Cape, appeared off the coast, but were not in time to take any part in the operations.

† The extent of the enemy's force is not ascertained, but it is said to have consisted chiefly of militia, who refused, on the approach of the British armament, to co-operate

and other public property on the island, there were ceded to the captors, six frigates, competently equipped, carrying from 36 to 52 guns, three English Indiamen recently taken, two brigs, and one sloop of war, mounting 14 guns each, and twenty-four Merchantmen, the greater part constructed for carrying from 400 to 1000 tons burthen.

In addition to the immediate advantages arrested by the capture from the hands of the French, it restored and set free to the renewed service of their country, the aid of 2000 of his majesty's seamen and soldiers confined in the enemy's prisons.

These striking benefits were obtained almost without a struggle, and without an opportunity being afforded to the great body of the army of displaying its proud and distinguishing characteristic. It cannot, however, be doubted, but that the recent instances of the intrepidity and zeal exhibited by a part of that gallant body, had established a reputation for the whole, and had induced an early submission, without a desire in the enemy of putting the general courage to the proof.

Thus terminated an expedition, most fortunately planned, and not less happily executed in all its parts.

The chief credit of the design, and of the direct and judicious measures, leading to the accomplishment of it, is eminently due to the governor-general of India, on whose recommendation, and at whose sole risk it was undertaken. But we mean not, in this broad acknowledgment, to withhold from the British ministry the share which they may claim in adopting lord Minto's plan, and in directing co-operative means, though tardily and unseasonably supplied, for the subsequent completion of it. We must also cheerfully subscribe with the British and Indian community, to the prudence and valour, which every where marked the counsels, and the acts of those vigilant and brave officers, to whom the command of the naval and military forces was confided, and of the valour of the instruments, employed in giving effect to their orders. These, however, have been gratefully and enthusiastically acknowledged by authorities, whose mention is praise, and whose praise is perpetual and unfading.

Who needs be told, that this newly acquired possession has been regarded and used by France, as the maritime key of India, and as the medium of maintaining communication with her Asiatic territory, and what is not of less importance, with the restless and changeable powers of Hindoostan? From this solitary spot, have issued the enemy's ships of war, one after another, in quick and unlimited succession, for an almost unexampled period of warfare, crippling and undermining British Indian commerce, and wasting the resources of the state, by the demand of an extraordinary protective maritime force, not always adequate, from the immeasurable expanse of the Indian ocean, to the defence of these our dearest interests. With the island, have failed to France, and, we trust, for ever, the means of access to the

in the defence of the island, though particularly invited by the following proclamation of general Decaen, issued on the 26th November.

INHABITANTS OF THE ISLE.

INHABITANTS,

Thirty-four sail of enemy's ships are before the island; this number, which may be augmented in a moment, leads us to suppose that the English have not abandoned their design to attack this colony; a design in which they have already been so much counteracted by the glorious success of the brave men of the division of Duperre. I bear in mind all the marks of the zeal and intrepidity that you shewed, before, and after that glorious action.

Inhabitants of the Isle of France, in the present conjuncture, it behoves me to remind you of the enthusiasm with which you have renewed your fidelity to your country on the day of the anniversary of the fete of the great Napoleon. You are Frenchmen; unite your courage to that of the brave soldiers and marines that I am about to oppose to our enemy, and we shall be victorious.

(Signed) DECAEN.

Isle of France, November 26th, 1810.

continent, and waters of India, a field for her mischievous policy on shore, and the plunder of our trade at sea. Shall we stop then to enquire the value, of this new acquisition to the Crown, or deliberate on the propriety of preserving it, from the future possession of our enemy? If it be not of any direct or immediate good in our hands, it has been experienced in those of France, to our yet unrecovered cost, a deadly instrument of evil. It is sometimes a wise policy not to calculate so much on gain, as on avoiding possible loss.

CHAPTER II.

Proceedings against the Molucca Islands—his Majesty's ship *Dover*, captain TUCKER, with the *Cornwallis* and *Samarang*, dispatched from Madras Roads, with a complement of artillery, and European infantry, under captain COURT, against the Dutch settlement of *Amboyna*—arrive in February off the island—the troops and seamen landed under the orders of captain COURT—attack the works at *Wannitoo* to the right of the town, which are carried by assault—march against *Batta Gantong*—which is deserted by the enemy—the ships bombard *Fort Victoria*—summons sent to the governor, and surrender of the settlement—measures pursued by captain COURT for the defence of the island—removal of the Dutch prisoners to Java—and further successful operations against *Saparoua*, *Harouka*, *Nasso-Laut*, *Bouro*, *Manippa*, and *Gorontello*—captain COLE sent with the *Caroline*, *Piedmontaise* and *Baracouta*, to the reinforcement of the division off the Moluccas—touches at *Penang* and *Malacca*, for stores and troops—makes sail for *Banda*, where he arrives on the 8th of August—unfavourable state of the weather for disembarkation—resolves on a night attack with less than half his force—lands at two o'clock in the morning—surprises a battery on the beach, and afterwards gallantly storms and carries the castle of *Belgica*—surrender of *Fort Nassau* and island—advantages of the capture—a detachment of troops from *Amboyna* sent by the governor on the *Dover*, for the attack of the island of *Ternatè*—come in sight of the island on the 25th of August, and land in the night of the 28th—disembark to the S. W. of Fort *Kayo Meirah*—difficulty of the march of the troops—captain FORBES, after overcoming innumerable obstacles, arrives within 800 yards of the fort—which he escalades, and carries gallantly by storm—his subsequent operations—prompt and determined proceedings of captain TUCKER, in the *Dover*, against the batteries on the beach, which terminate in the surrender of the whole island and its establishments.

THE policy of the governor-general had a larger scope than the mere reduction of the immediate possessions of the French, as noticed in the preceding chapter; it was directed at one and the same moment against all the local settlements in the east that depended directly or relatively on France; aiming to separate her entirely in relation, in interest, and intercourse with India and its concerns, and to deprive her even of a pretence in future, for entering the Indian seas. Accordingly, towards the close of the year 1809, an expedition, on a moderate but sufficient scale, was planned against the *Molucca* islands, to clear the way for more extensive and more important operations at that time in the contemplation of the supreme government. This, like the expeditions just described, partook of a naval, as well as a mili-

tary character; differing only in the proportion of the distinct forces employed: while the former depended mainly on the military body, the latter looked more peculiarly for success to the application of its maritime strength.

The command of the naval force, consisting of his majesty's ships, the *Dover*, *Cornwallis* and *Samarang*, were confided to captain *Tucker*; and the military detachment, consisting principally of a party of the company's Madras European regiment, and a small body of artillery, was placed under the command of captain *Court*, of the latter corps.

The joint force sailed from the Roads of Madras in the month of October, 1809, giving protection to a fleet of homeward-bound Indiamen, so far as 170 degrees south latitude; when it separated from the convoy, for the prosecution of its destined object, proceeded to, and passed the straights of Sunda; and, in the middle of the month of February, after an easy and favourable passage, came in sight of *Amboyna*, the scene of its future operations. In the course of the passage, his majesty's ships made prize of several of the enemy's cruizers, stationed in the Molucca seas; two of them, indeed, within a few leagues of the last-mentioned island.

The division made directly for *Laha* bay, where it anchored, for the purpose of reconnoitring, which the position favoured, the different works of the enemy, and of examining and ascertaining the safest means of approach.

These provisions being made, a council of war was assembled, consisting of captains *Tucker*, *Montague*, and *Spencer*, of the navy, and captains *Court*, *Philips*, and *Forbes*, of the company's infantry, in order to consider of the operations to be followed.

It was well known to both of the commandants, that the military works of Amboyna, as well from immediate inspection, as authentic statements, had been materially augmented and fortified since they had passed from the possession of the English, at the termination of the late war, into the hands of the Dutch, and more especially since the superintendance of the islands in the eastern seas had been virtually exercised by the French government. *Fort Victoria*, the principal fortress of Amboyna, not so formidable in internal strength, as in the surrounding defences, had been improved by the addition of several out-works, raised by much labour, and at considerable expence. The principal military depots had been removed from the fort to an adjoining eminence, around which strong fortifications had been thrown, and new redoubts and batteries erected, to defend it from sudden attack, and all the principal approaches to the fort, had been intersected by deep trenches, covered over with loose earth and grass, to deceive the unlicensed and unsuspicious foot, that should tread it, in advancing towards the town. But though the place, from the sea-face, seemed to discountenance an assault in that quarter, yet all the labour and exertions of the enemy could not cure an inherent defect in the fortress, arising out of the circumstances of the circumjacent country; which shewed two distinct ranges of heights, the furthest of which was not distant from the walls more than 1,200, and the nearest 700 yards, exposing it, therefore, on the side of the land, if the heights could be once gained by an hostile force, to an easy and successful enterprize. Weighing the difficulties and the facilities that presented themselves on either side, it was resolved, notwithstanding the means of the expedition were more naval than military, that the latter force should be principally employed, aided by the seamen and marines, in the attack of the settlement; and that the attempt should be prosecuted without delay. But, to conceal the intention of debarkation from the enemy, a very successful manœuvre was practised by the naval commandant, in ordering the ships, when they got under weigh, to stand across the bay, as if they were intent on working out to sea; but contriving, by a skilful management of the sails, to let the ships drift towards the landing-place, having the boats slung over the ship's side,

hidden from the fort, and ready to be dropt on a signal to that effect. When the ships, by this stratagem, had come within a short and convenient distance from the shore, the ships were directed to bear up, and sail large before the wind, to within a cable's length of the place of landing, where the troops were instantly debarked, without loss, or even opposition; the latter circumstance may be fairly ascribed to the ingenuity of the manœuvre.

The troops landed on the 16th of February, under the frequent cheers of their companions aboard, and under a heavy discharge of the guns of his majesty's vessels, on the enemy's batteries on the land, thus provoking employment for his artillery, and distracting his attention from the annoyance of the party in the act of disembarkation.

The soldiers and seamen were drawn up immediately on their reaching the shore, in the order previously arranged by capt. *Court.*

When they were ranked and numbered together, the whole amount of the different descriptions of force did not exceed four hundred and one men, who were destined to attempt, if not to effect the subjection of a force more than four-fold their number, and with advantages that could not have been viewed without fearful apprehensions by any other troops, than those who are unused to own any obstacles, and unaccustomed to yield to them when encountered.

The military and naval force, consisting of 176 men of the Madras European regiment and artillery, and 225 seamen and marines, was placed under the command of capt. *Court*, of the Madras artillery, to whom the conduct of the operations on shore was solely confided. This small band, under the plan adopted at the council, was formed immediately on its landing, into two divisions, each to be employed in securing the distinct object given to it in charge. The first, or the advance party, commanded by capt. *Phillips*, consisting of about 180 men, was directed to attack the battery of *Wannitoo*, situated at the top of a small hill, a commanding position, and defended by eleven pieces of heavy ordnance, while the second division, formed of the residue of the force, and under the eye of the capt. commandant, should possess themselves of another height, on the same line with the former, but somewhat nearer to the fortified works, with the intent of turning the enemy's position at *Batta Gantong*, and of seizing a post, having the complete command of fort Victoria, and the town of *Amboyna.* While those several operations should be in progress, the navy were ordered by capt. *Tucker*, to keep up a constant fire on the batteries situate along the coast, defending the sea approaches to the fort and town. These dispositions were peculiarly adapted to the nature of the enemy's defences and resources, and were seemingly well calculated to master the one and the other, if the force appointed to carry them into execution, were not inadequate in its power to effect such large and arduous purposes. But what it might want in numbers, was expected, and not vainly, to be supplied by the spirit and gallantry of the troops, of whom it was composed, whose movements are about to fall under our immediate notice.

The first object of attack, was the battery at *Wannitoo*, situate on the first or lesser height, and this was committed, as has been explained, to the charge of capt. *Phillips*, in command of the advanced party, which so soon as it was collected on the shore, was led on by its brave and judicious commander against this the enemy's nearest post. The body of the troops pressed on with great alacrity to the point assigned, and with a determination to carry it by a *coup de main.* The officer heading the small column was lieutenant *Duncan Stewart*, attached to the artillery, who, after some toil and struggle, reached the eminence of the hill, on which the battery was raised, and keeping the same station there as he did in the march, was the first that had the honor to enter the enemy's battery, emulously followed and imitated by the thronging soldiers and seamen in his rear. Feeling himself

in possession of the position, and fearless of retaining it against all opposition, with a generosity, the sure concomitant of genuine valour, he called upon the Dutch commander to surrender the battery, and accept the quarter which he tendered; but the latter, either disdaining the proferred mercy, or preferring death to captivity, and acknowledged defeat, refused the liberal offer of his adversary, and defended himself and his post with an obstinate courage and perseverance to the last extremity, exciting the admiration, even while it provoked the corresponding energetic efforts of his assailants. The place was at length carried by the united force directed against it, for there was need of every arm, but not without the effusion of British blood. The enemy were driven on every side from the height, with considerable loss, in killed and wounded: among the former were the commandant, and three inferior officers; on the part of the English, the loss was comparatively small, but among the wounded, was the gallant officer who headed the storming party, but we are happy to add, not so severely as to preclude his further services in the improvement of the fruits of the contest. By the exertions of this officer, three of the guns newly captured, were instantly brought to bear on the flying and scattered enemy, and were afterwards pointed, most successfully, on the more advanced height in the enemy's possession at *Batta Gantong*, thus preparing the way to the post to which the other British division was, in the mean time, hastening, to effect the second object of attack, and whither it is now necessary to accompany it.

While the first party was pushing its advances under capt. *Phillips*, against the foremost out-works of the enemy, capt. *Court* was winding his way, with the reserve, and in a circuitous course, over the more remote and superior height, with the intent, as has been shewn, of taking up a favourable position, from which he might annoy, and in all reasonable probability, turn and dislodge the enemy from his only remaining strong hold, at Batta Gantong. These were the two principal works in which the enemy confided.

But *Batta Gantong* was more difficult of access, and beset with more natural defences than the first, so as to discountenance and utterly forbid a direct assault, and to demand a cautious and wary approach. Sensible of the natural and artificial strength of the enemy, the British commander fashioned his means to the difficulties with which he had to encounter. Seeing the rashness of an attempt to take the enemy in front, he wisely ordered the troops under his command, to move obliquely over the steep, but undulating ground, until they should reach the summit of the height, towering above the enemy's post,* and, although he well knew that eminence could not be gained, but by severe and incessant labour, he did not despair of this painful exercise of a soldier's patience, to overcome the obstacles that lay in his way. Animating his men, by his own example, he began his toilsome task, and mastered steep after steep, now exposing himself on the summit of frightful precipices, and now again, in alternate labour, sinking into the abyss below; every fresh ascent being deemed the last, until another rose behind it in rapid succession, seeming to mock the end of his toil. In this way did the passive troops climb and descend from one eminence to another, and without intermission for more than five hours; trusting often for safety to their hands, in seizing the slight and thinly-scattered shrub, to assist the sliding and unsteady foot over an hitherto untrodden way; but at length had the good fortune to end a most fatiguing and harassing march, by safely arriving at the goal, the promised reward of their labour. At about seven o'clock in the evening, a little after sunset, the British party were at first seen on the height, and prepared to pursue the advantage purchased by their previous toil, when the enemy perceiving what their labour had achieved, and what it ultimately promised to effect, suddenly withdrew from his station, leaving his guns, and

his works, to the unopposed possession of the assailants. Thus constancy made sure of the meed, which courage, however eminently displayed, might have rendered hazardous or doubtful.

Captain *Court*, having entered the battery with his division, occupied himself during the rest of the evening, in rendering the ordnance left in it fit for the expected service of the following morning, to which time all active measures against the enemy were necessarily suspended.

While these gallant and successful operations were conducted by the troops on shore, the naval commandant employed his peculiar force in furthering their pursuits, by a brisk and incessant fire on the fort and surrounding batteries, for the space of several hours, drawing for this long interval, all the attention of the officers in command of the enemy's works, to the proceeding of the shipping, and leading it in consequence, from the movements of the troops on land, who used the opportunity which the interim presented to them, in the advantageous and successful manner explained. But this assistance was not rendered, without exposing the naval force to certain loss, and still greater peril. During the time which his majesty's ships engrossed nearly the whole of the enemy's fire, they were galled by a heavy discharge of artillery from the heights on the left of the town, with red hot shot, and were closely plied by the batteries on the beach, and on piles, running into the sea; which being low in their construction, and on a level almost with the water, gave the ordnance upon them a particular advantage over the vessels in front. The Cornwallis alone, which was more directly exposed to the fire of one of the sea batteries, received more than 200 shots in her side. The loss of the navy would have been more severe, if at the end of the interval just noticed, a light breeze had not sprung up from the land, and enabled the brave and skilful commander of the naval part of the expedition, to lead his division, which had drifted during the action, from a position, immediately within the power of the enemy's guns, to a convenient anchorage without their range; but not before the first position of the enemy had been stormed, and the second in a fair course of being reduced to the situation of the first.

Having brought his ships to anchor beyond the reach of the enemy's batteries, capt. *Tucker* retained his well chosen position, repairing his damages in the interval, until he should be required by the exigencies of the service, to render his further active and co-operative assistance.

He had not long taken his station before he had to witness the capture of the second battery of the enemy, at *Batta Gantong*; and in the dusk of the evening, forwarded 40 men, with two field pieces, under the command of capt. *Spencer*, who volunteered his services on the occasion, to the re-inforcement of the newly-acquired position on the height.

The serviceable and important aid of the navy, was reciprocated on the next morning, (the 17th) by the military on the height, by dislodging the enemy, by a well-directed and effective fire, from the batteries, that had recently harassed the British shipping from the water and the beach. Both these commanding points were abandoned, with precipitation, shortly after day light—and the walls of the fort, by the removal of these powerful defences, were left exposed to the mercy of our batteries afloat.

At this time, the artillery at *Batta Gantong* was opened with full effect on the fort and town below, working much apparent and deadly mischief, which was faintly attempted to be retaliated by the projection of a few, but powerless shells from the garrison, failing in their aim, and falling spent and short of their mark.

Impressed with their own superiority in position, and the visible weakness of the enemy, the naval and military commandants determined on consulting together on the propriety of desisting from further adverse operations, to give the enemy an opportunity of

making such terms, for the cessation to hostilities, as should be consonant se his reduced means, and for this purpoes the firing from the ships and batteri a were ordered to be discontinued, and summons was forthwith sent, from motives of humanity, for the surrender of the fort and islands. An answer, after a short interval, was returned from the Dutch commandant, accompanied with 17 distinct articles, regularly drawn up, and previously prepared, it may be imagined, in anticipation of a demand of surrender. In this answer, the commander-in chief of the Moluccas set forth, as the principal inducements to the capitulation tendered by him, "the concurrence of unfavourable events, and the infidelity and treacherous conduct of the Amboynese inhabitants, who, insensible, as he described, of the benefits bestowed on them by the Dutch, had exhibited, in return for them, a determined enmity on the nation."

The proposed articles of the capitulation were of an ordinary nature, treating, as usual, for the security of private property and the liberty of the inhabitants—and the surrender of the fort, under circumstances gratifying to the pride and honour of soldiers; which articles were arranged and concluded, after little discussion, between the commanders of the British naval and military forces and the colonel adjutant general of the king of Holland, on the same evening; and the next morning was appointed for the evacuation of the place; when the garrison marched out with all the honours of war, exceeding in numbers one thousand, three hundred men; who laid down their arms, without its walls, surrendered the capital of the Moluccas, and an almost impregnable fort, to less than one third the number of their force.

What must have been the surprise, as well as the proud feeling of the limited but valorous British ranks, as they counted the numbers of the enemy, marshalled out in long array and preceded by a train of field-artillery, with all the pomp and circumstance of war, moving slowly and sullenly along their line?

The public stores surrendered with the island, were of great and almost incalculable value; the spices alone, being estimated at 300,000*l*.

The brass ordnance of different calibre, captured on the works, amounted to 215 guns, and the iron guns to eighteen.

Thus were these advantages,* splendid in themselves, and most important in their consequences, obtained by a brave handful of men, not it is true without a struggle, but without any serious loss.

The exertions of the commanders of the different forces did not cease with their success; but were urged, on every side, without intermission to the improvement of their conquest, converting the fruits of it, just rescued from the enemy's possession, to his further and fuller discomfiture. While the new

* The instructions given by his majesty's ministers to the admiral on the India station co-operated with the views of *Lord Minto*, and certainly stimulated if they did not determine the operations concerted against the Moluccas, which thus successfully commenced. A blockade of Java and these islands was at first all that was meant, but as this was dictated wholly with a view to annoy the enemy, by preventing his ships from sailing to or leaving his ports, the intention was improved upon in India, by changing the mode of annoyance, from one which was impracticable from the extent of the enemy's coast and the narrowness of our naval means, for another equally operative and efficacious, and capable of execution, the *seizure* of the Dutch *ports* themselves. Admiral Drury, thus expresses himself on the subject, in a letter to the secretary at the Admiralty, dated the 22nd of April.

"In consequence of his majesty's order in council and their lordship's directions to put the island of Java and the Moluccas under the most rigid state of blockade, I endeavoured to effect it with the few ships that could be spared from India; but finding it impossible to cover such an extent of coast; so as to answer that purpose of annoying or distressing the enemy to any extent, I judged it would be best done, by seizing upon the principal settlement in the eastern islands, securing their shipping and valuable crops of the Moluccas, and thereby fulfilling the intention of the blockade in a great degree, and at the least risk to the commercial and political interests of India."

governor of Amboyna was employed in forming the Malays into battalions, for the defence of the island; the naval commandant was not less busily occupied in removing from the settlement the Dutch troops, with their officers, and the civil functionaries, to the isle of Java: thus rendering a double service, by increasing the strength of the place, and diminishing at the same time the demands of defence, and leaving consequently in the proportion of the diminution of the latter, a disposable force, which might be required, for the accomplishment of remaining objects.

By these precautionary measures, the navy was left at liberty to push its advances against the small contributory and dependent establishments of the Dutch, which were numerous, in the surrounding sea. A number of islands and fortified places, the immediate subordinates and dependencies on Amboyna, *Saperoua*, *Harouka*, *Nasso-Laut*, *Bouro*, *Manippa*, and *Gorontello*, partaking of the fortune of their principal, fell successively, under the activity of the navy, into the British possession. All these were captured by the middle of the month of June, and men alone seemed wanting to extend the successes of the British arms to the entire reduction of the enemy's power in the Moluccas. The military force was originally too scanty, to admit of any large detachment from it for more extensive captures, and the whole of the artillery in particular were especially required to secure what had already been obtained; it had therefore become absolutely necessary to confine their views at present, and wait in quietude until fresh forces, should be received from other quarters, or arrangements made, by a different dispensation of troops, for the completion of ulterior objects. These were not effected before the beginning of the month of August; when we have to observe the different forces again in action, and have thence to detail their movements and their effects. In the interim, it appears, that a naval reinforcement had been dispatched from India by admiral *Drury*, consisting of the ships *Caroline*, *Piedmontaise*, and *Baracouta*, under the command of captain *Cole*, to the relief of the division off Amboyna, which, putting in during the passage at *Penang*, took on board a variety of military stores, and received an order for the embarkation of a small detail of artillery, of 20 non-commissioned rank and file under an experienced officer, at Malacca, at which place the ships touched in their way to the Molucca seas.

Having taken on board the detachment of artillery, and in addition to a part of the Madras regiment, which had accompanied them from India, the ships departed from the last-mentioned place on the 12th of June, and proceeded straight to *Sooloo*, when, having completed the supply of fresh water and provisions for the remainder of the voyage, they sailed for, and arrived on the 8th of August in *Banda roads*, with the design of surprising the island, before its commandant should receive intelligence of any new force having arrived in those seas: but the approach of this unexpected naval force had been unfortunately communicated to the Dutch on the preceding day. Immediate measures seeming indispensable to prevent the enemy recovering from his surprize, it was resolved, that a descent should be made on the island during the same night.

The attack, as pre-determined by captain Cole, was to have been made by the collected naval and military force on board the division applicable to the service, amounting in the whole to nearly 400 men. But the season did not allow this prepared and digested plan to be carried into effect, the weather being so unfavourable as to make the landing of so large a body of men in boats, if not unpracticable, at least unsafe—as the circumstance, however desirable, could not be effected by a single exertion, or indeed without frequent communication with the ships in a cross sea and heavy swell. The necessity of prompt measures was apparent to all, and to none more than to the gallant officer who commanded the expedition; who, adapting his operation to the occasion,

determined, on the instant, on attempting the assault with such part of his force as might be instantaneously landed; judging that the rapidity of his movements, and the consequent alarm of the enemy would counterbalance his want of force, and might effect more, as it often does, on a sudden, than he could achieve by a protracted and more matured operation. With this impression, he placed himself, and about two hundred men, a mixed body of seamen, marines, and the Madras European regiment, into the several boats of the division, and quitted the ships with a courage and confidence, always accompanying, and usually insuring, success, in a dark squally night, on an open and tempestuous sea, to descend on an hostile coast, fortified strongly by nature and by art, and defended by a formidable force. Every mind was full and glowing for the coming enterprise, but every tongue was mute. The boats, bearing these hardy and adventurous few, boldly buffetted the winds, and the dark and dreary, and troubled deep, but patiently wrought their way through the angry and contending elements, until they reached the kindly shelter of the land under the friendly cover of which they winded their laborious and tedious way, to the yet undiscovered point of debarkation at *Banda Neiro*, which, when descried, was possessed with the silent and wary foot of the hunter, stealing softly on his prey.

The troops were landed at two o'clock in the morning—a dark cloud, with rain, yet overshadowed and favoured, most opportunely, the earliest operation of the assailants. The spot of debarkation, as chosen by captain Cole, was situated near a battery of ten guns, and distant from it not more than one hundred yards; and as this could not be left in the rear on the advance of the British party to the principal fortress without signal danger, it was ordered to be attacked by the pikemen under captain *Kenah*, of the *Baracouta*, and lieutenant *Carew*, of the same ship, and to be carried, if practicable, without noise or confusion, that might advise the garrison of the approach of an hostile footstep. This prudent order of their commandant was faithfully executed by the officers to whose charge it was committed, and so literally obeyed, that they came secretly on the rear of the enemy, and were actually in the midst of the battery before he was sensible of their presence, though, at the time of the seizure of the post, the enemy's artillery were standing with lighted matches by the side of their guns. This single circumstance speaks sufficiently of the address with which the service was executed.

Being thus surprised, the Dutch party submitted without firing a musquet, and were left prisoners in their own battery, under the custody of a serjeant's guard—when captain *Kenah* and his brother officer returned to join the main body, and to partake in the general toil.

The time now became as critical as it was urgent, for it was nearly the break of day, and the most important part of the enterprise remained to be performed. So soon, therefore, as the battery had been secured, captain *Cole* moved forward, with alacrity, with his collected, but small force, to the castle of Belgica, directed in his obscure, and hitherto unexplored way, by the assistance of a Native guide. The troops made a circuit, by different routes, of the skirts of the town; but did not succeed in reaching the walls of the fortress, before the sound of the bugle informed them that the enemy was not unapprised of their coming. Stimulated by this intelligence, the British party rushed onwards to the outworks of the castle, the seamen and their gallant leader preceding, succeeded by the men bearing the scaling-ladders, and followed by the reserve, or covering party, consisting of the marines and soldiers, under command of captain *Nixon*, of the Madras European infantry.

In less than 20 minutes the ladders were placed at the walls of the outer pentagon of Belgica, and the assailants had successfully escaladed their sides, with little opposition; the only shot

that had yet occurred, having been fired from the musquetry of the enemy's centinels. The British force, on gaining the ramparts, hauled up their scaling-ladders, with an activity unparalleled, ready to apply them to the storm of the superior and stronger works of the citadel, to which they rushed, under the immediate eye and encouragement of their brave leader, and in the same order, and with the same confidence, with which they had surmounted the foremost obstacle. The enemy, in the interim, had time to prepare and point his artillery, and to level his musquetry at the storming party, and kept up for a few minutes a brisk, but ineffectual fire; in despite of which the seamen steadily and unheedingly mounted the walls, under the protection of a well-directed fire of the soldiers and marines, by whom they were covered and followed; and the works were thinned and scoured, in an instant, by the irresistible influence of the pike and the bayonet, or, to use the more energetic words of the British commandant,—"the brave fellows swept the ramparts like a whirlwind,"—driving the enemy before them in all directions, through the gateway, and every outlet of the fort, leaving the col.-commandant, and ten others, dead; and two officers, and 30 prisoners in the hands of the besiegers. This gallant achievement was effected without the loss of a single life, and without any serious hurt to those by whose hands it was accomplished. It was effected, too, without any of those irregularities, which the heat and the hour of conquest sometimes induces, to the regret and embitterment of the succeeding moment of reflection.

About half-past five, A. M. of the 9th, the fort was in the quiet, undisturbed possession of the besieging party, and the sun beaming propitiously at the moment, discovered the fort of *Nassau*, the sea defences beneath, and the enemy stationed at his guns on the different batteries on the water, but commanded by the position, arrested immediately from his hands; and a sight even more grateful presented itself, the *Piedmontaise*, *Caroline*, and *Baracouta*, sailing into the harbour of the enemy, whither the zeal, perseverance, and consummate skill of captain *Foote* had conducted them, through a narrow and intricate channel, under the unfavourable circumstances of a dark and squally night; cheering the sight of his companions ashore, and holding out a seasonable assistance, if it had been requisite, for the entire subjection of the place. But such was the impression made by the first onset of the British, such the advantages just obtained, and such the terror excited by the expected united efforts of the navy and the military, from the decided measures, and the apparently increasing force about to be applied, that the Dutch commandant did not think fit to put the courage of his troops to a second trial, but agreed for the surrender of the island on the first summons: when seven hundred disciplined troops, besides militia, two forts, and one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon, were given up, on the common conditions, to the possession of the brave and enterprising captors.

This interesting and useful service was principally achieved, as it has been shewn, from the turn of events, by the active exertions of the navy, inspirited by the example of its gallant leader,—sustained, however, so far as their hands and services were employed, by the joint and zealous endeavours of the army, under the command of captain *Nixon*,* and promoted, perhaps, not in a secondary degree, by the judicious skill of captain *Cole*, promptly exerted on the exigency of the times, both in the employment of his means, and in the choice of the place of his attack; being the point exactly opposite to that where it had been directed in the

* The eminent services of this officer are acknowledged in the general orders of *Lord Minto*,—Page 80 of Bengal Occurrences.

late war, and where the enemy expected an assault, and where, in consequence, he had armed himself more strongly for resistance.

The value of this, one of the principal spice depots of the Dutch, is too well known to demand any particular description, but it may be cursorily observed, that its internal value, great as admitted, is perhaps inferior to the external advantage which it secures, in the support of the position previously obtained, and in the protection of the Eastern trade.

We have scarcely concluded the expression of our passing admiration at an exploit, which in other ages might have occupied and exhausted the pages of historic volumes, when we are called, such the crowd of splendid and valorous events of the present æra, to the contemplation of new, and if it were possible, even of superior achievements. Having accompanied the recent expedition from India to the Eastern seas, it is now our pleasing office to trace the progress of the first, in its further operations in the same eventful scene.

By the middle of the month of August, the British forces at Amboyna had been so arranged and increased by the prudence and activity of capt. *Court*, the commandant of that island, that he felt himself justified in devoting a part of them, on the request of capt. *Tucker*, for an attempt on the Island of *Ternaté*, the only remaining position of consequence in the Molucca seas, in the hands of the Dutch. One hundred troops, for the most part Europeans, under the command of capt. *Forbes*, of the Madras European regiment, were accordingly appointed for this service, and were embarked on the 21st of this month, on his Majesty's ship *Dover*, which immediately stood to sea, and got sight of the island on the 25th, but, owing to light airs and calms, was not in a situation to commence offensive measures, until the 28th, when at about one o'clock, A. M. the troops were embarked in the boats, (consisting of 74 European artillery and infantry, 32 native Amboynese, 36 marines, and 32 seamen, in all, 174) in the expectation of effecting a landing close to the walls of fort *Kayo Meirah*, under the cover of the night. The boats were placed under the direction of lieut. *Jefferies*, who made every exertion to conduct them to the point nearest to the fort, but on approaching the shore, he had the misfortune to encounter unfavourable currents, which he ineffectually attempted to stem, yet had at day-light the extreme mortification to find himself, notwithstanding his best efforts, at a considerable distance from the appointed landing place. From this untoward circumstance, it became necessary for capt. *Forbes*, in charge of the troops, to select another place of debarkation, which he very judiciously chose at *Sasa*, situated behind, and covered by a point of land, without the line of the enemy's fire, to the Southward and Westward of the fort, and which he had the good fortune to reach about seven o'clock the same morning, without any molestation. From this spot the military commandant pushed forward a small party, under the orders of lieut. *C. Forbes*, with the only gun which he had brought from the ship, to occupy an height which lay directly in his front. This service was executed without delay, but not without great labour and fatigue, from the unequal nature of the ground, and the abrupt ravines which opposed themselves to the advance of the troops, at broken, but frequent intervals. To this post the main strength of the little detachment followed; thence to encounter fresh and similar difficulties in pressing forward to a second height, which had been possessed in the last war by the British, and had been used by them as the direct means of approach to the fort. But the trees had grown so much in this quarter, in the interval, as entirely to conceal the fort, and to preclude all hope of any operations being prosecuted from this commanding situation. But the ship and her proceedings were plainly discoverable from it, and capt. *Forbes* perceived, just at the moment of taking up his position, that she had hoisted a flag

of truce, summoning the enemy to surrender. Not expecting that the Dutch would give up so strong and valuable a station, without some endeavour to retain it, capt. *Forbes* directed preparations to be made, for use, or not, as the event might determine, against the enemy's works of *Kayo Meirah*; and one hundred men, with the double scaling ladders, were selected, and already drawn up for this particular duty, when a letter was brought from capt. *Tucker*, advising of the failure of the summons, and of the naval commandant's design of placing his ship as early as possible on the next morning, alongside the works of the fort. But the ardent zeal of capt. *Forbes*, would not allow him to wait until another sun should rise, ere he disturbed the enemy in his works, and interrupted his labours in endeavouring to render them more formidable in strength, but having selected and marshalled his forces, as has been just described, he proceeded in the evening, after a short refreshment of his men, by an intricate and difficult path, to the assault of the fortress. After a most tedious and harassing march, offering new impediments at almost every step, laying through thick and nearly impenetrable woods, he succeeded at length in reaching the beach, within 800 yards of the fort, wholly undiscovered by the enemy; where he arrived about ten o'clock at night. Taking full advantage of his success, he led on his force, without a moment's pause, to the attack of the enemy's outworks, and had not proceeded fifty paces before an out-sentry observing his approach, fired his musquet in alarm. A detachment of the enemy with a brigade of guns, instantly appeared in front, prepared to resist the advancing party, and firing, as an earnest of their intention, a volley into the British line, who, after returning this rough salute, by a round of musquetry, rushed impetuously forward, under the personal conduct of their gallant commander, forcing the enemy at all points, and driving him completely from his position.

When the way had been thus cleared, the fort opened a very heavy fire of grape and musquetry on the assailants, who, headed by their brave leader, still kept the steady tenour of their course, in contempt of the showering balls around their heads, until they arrived at the margin of the ditch, where, dashing precipitately through the chasm, and gaining the opposite side, applied the ladders to the flank of the nearest bastion, and in disregard of the fire and the resistance of the enemy, were in a moment in possession of the ramparts, clearing them, by an instant and irresistible effort, of every opponent. An officer and sixty-eight prisoners fell, with the fort, in the hands of the British party, the remainder of the garrison having escaped by well known passages, during the continuance of the storm. With this happy termination of the labours of an eventful day, capt. *Forbes* rested with his troops, for the short residue of the night.

At day break the next morning, the enemy opened against the fort, a fire from the battery at *Cottah Para*; which was too far distant to occasion any damage, but as its neighbourhood was not desirable, capt. *Forbes* directed lieut. *Cursham* with a party, to take it in the rear, and if practicable, to reduce it into his possession, but he was obliged to return, after a slight and ineffectual attempt, having found the small force which could be spared for the attack, incompetent to master the enemy, strongly posted at this battery, and defended by six heavy pieces of ordnance.

At two o'clock, P. M. about the time of lieut. *Cursham's* return, capt. *Tucker* had succeeded, after a laborious struggle with a contrary current and winds, in laying his ship across the battery of *Kota Barro*, next in position to fort *Kayo Meirah*, and mounting eight guns. The *Dover* closing within pistol shot, and keeping up a smart fire on the battery with canister and grape, soon silenced its guns; when she stood on to the succeeding battery of five guns, close on the strand, opening by this change of position, a fire from a third battery, and the sea face

of Fort Orange, on his Majesty's ship. Capt. *Tucker* was returning the fire of the different batteries in his front, when he found himself unexpectedly exposed to the raking shot of the battery which he had just quitted in his rear; he therefore thought it prudent to withdraw from his present open situation, and effectually secure and spike the guns of *Kota Barro*, before he advanced any further against the other three, and with this intent had just regained his former station, and again succeeded in silencing the enemy's guns, when he perceived lieut. *Cursham* in smart contest with a numerous body of the enemy, in the rear of the battery.

So soon as capt. *Forbes* was aware of the attack made by the *Dover*, he had ordered, it seems, the last-mentioned officer to advance with a gun, and additional men, to take advantage of capt. *Tucker's* fire, and to aid his purpose by assailing the enemy in the rear, and having first driven the Dutch troops from a breast work which they had thrown up in the course of the day, lieut. *Cursham* was following them to the edge of the battery, when he was discovered by capt. *Tucker* in the last act of his success, in the pursuit of the yielding and flying enemy. He at the next instant entered the battery, and turned its artillery on the town, and the fortified works on the sea-line.

The *Dover* being freed from the annoyance of *Kota Barro*, was brought to close action with the whole of the batteries before-mentioned, and used her broadsides with such cool decision and success, that before five o'clock in the evening, the enemy's firing had utterly ceased, and flags of truce were seen hoisted in every direction on the walls of the fortification. Soon after these signals were held out, three officers of the Dutch government were sent on board to arrange the articles of capitulation, for the surrender of the place, which were concluded on the following morning. Thus a third most valuable island, after a contest of less than twenty-four hours duration, with its strong works, and powerful and regular defences, in ordnance and men,* was added to the British possessions.†

In contemplating these several brilliant captures, one by one, it might be thought, as if fortune had been propitious to the darings of individual adventurers, whom she had capriciously designed to favour; but when they are successively considered and viewed in their accumulate form, they would seem to challenge a more certain character, and a higher appreciation; they would appear as effects springing from natural causes; the result of victory, founded on the unerring basis of courage, governed and directed by rational prudence and judgment. To such a combination are we indebted for the many feats of our departed heroes, as well as of the living com-patriots, who are treading close upon their steps; the nation's never-dying glory, and ever-existing hope.

* These consisted of five hundred disciplined infantry, 203 European seamen, and armed Dutch inhabitants, and 500 native troops, in all, 1203 rank and file.

† *Lord Minto* expresses his acknowledgment of the brilliant services of capt. Forbes, in his General Orders of the 16th Feb. 1811. Vide page 80, Bengal Occurrences.

TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOJI'S SARASWATI MAHAL

CHAPTER III.

Tranquil appearance of affairs—general quiet, not likely to be interrupted by the acts or dispositions of the larger states—death of nabob of Bengal—succession of his son—extraordinary claim of Meer Khan, on behalf of Holkar, on the rajah of Nagpore—anecdotes of the Mahratta prince, and his general—claim attempted to be enforced by the sword—opposed by the British government, on the application of the rajah—movements of the British armies under colonel Close and colonel Martindell—retreat of Meer Khan to the Mahratta states—general reflections—operations in Bundlecund—a short account of Gopaul Sing—and of the events of the campaign against that Poligar—military transactions at Bombay—insurrection headed by a fanatic in the territories of the rajah of Mandvie—suppressed by Mr. Crowe, by military means—progress of the expeditions under colonel Smith and captain Wainwright, against the pirates in the Persian Gulph—attack and capture of the port of Luft and Scheenaas—desperate defence of the latter—expedition terminated—general orders thereupon—political events noticed—embassies of Sir H. Jones and brigadier-general Malcolm, to Persia—their different powers noticed—fate of captain Grant and cornet Fotheringham, attached to the suite of general Malcolm—termination of the latter embassy—honours conferred on the ambassador—mission of Sir G. Ousely—arrival at Bombay—and voyage to Persia—recal of the embassy to Cabul—civil history—improvements at Bengal—progress of the college—observations on Lord Minto's address—proposed opening of the canal of Nehur Beheisht—veterinary institution established at Madras—opening of the new docks at Bombay—launch of the Minden of 74 guns—conclusion.

It was fortunate, in the interval of the several expeditions mentioned in the preceding chapters, that the quiet of the continent of India was not threatened by any serious interruption. None of the greater states of Hindustan, or of the surrounding countries, appear to have been actuated in the interim, by any but an amicable disposition to the local British government, or towards each other, so that there was nothing likely to arise that might involve the affairs of India in a regular warfare, which might implicate the East India company, either as a principal or ally.

The civil commotions and contentions in *Cabul*, adverted to in a former volume, were at too great a distance in position, as well as interest, materially to affect the British possessions or politics: and the domestic arrangements of the states nearer at hand did not discover any thing calculated to produce such a change in their internal condition or government, as to vary the existing relations with other powers. There seems to have been no alteration in the foreign relation of the East India company, except in the succession of one friendly prince for another in the soubahdarry of Bengal; an event of routine, proceeding in the course of lineal descent, and not remarkable from the ordinary occurrences of the day, but from the official communications it required, in the notification of the succession, to the friendly powers

around; and the formal declaration it demanded of the determination of the government-general to assist and support the succession with all its power: a declaration, in significance and meaning, nearly tantamount to that of the champion of England, on the accession of a new sovereign to the throne of that kingdom.*

But though there was no general warlike appearance between the greater powers, there were certain indications of hostile movements between some of the many restless adventurers, that are daily rising into reputation, and disturbing the tranquillity of a secondary order of states, that have founded themseves, in a permissive policy, on the borders of the larger principalities; and to which they often communicate, without a vigilant counteractive policy, a part of the ill effects, if not of the spirit of their feuds. As it would seem to be somewhat foreign to our purpose, and would be uninteresting to the reader, to enter into an enumeration of the disputes, which put a number of these petty chiefs in motion against each other, and for causes purely concerning their diminutive interests, we shall pass to the notice only of such particular quarrels and differences, as immediately demanded, or individually required the interference of the British government. These happily were few, not exceeding two in number, and both happening in situations, where the common force of the government might be applied with convenience and effect.

The first of these occurred on the frontiers of the *rajah* of *Nagpore*, communicating with the Mahratta states; and the other on the side of *Bundlecund*, having a near communion also with the same territories. One appears to have been fomented by a chieftain, well known in recent Mahratta history under the title of *Meer Khan*; and the other by *Gopaul Sing*, an enterprising adventurer, with a character just rushing into notice, and from the exploits now connecting themselves with it, promising to become of equal eminence with that of the celebrated Mahratta chieftain.

Of the circumstances that respect the family of the Mahratta states, abundant intelligence is generally derived through the medium of British residents, or the persons attached to their suite; but, from the want of the same means of information, little comparatively is known of the separate government of the territories under Jeswunt Rao *Holkar*, whence the present dispute arises, or indeed of his policy, until it is manifested in his public acts. The British government has never thought it expedient, hitherto, to maintain an envoy at the court of that chieftain, on account, it is believed, of the dissolute manners and profligacy of the prince, rather than from any contempt of his power.

Hence the transactions in this quarter come upon the Indian public generally by surprise. This circumstance, which prevents a full knowledge at any time of the policy of the Durbar at *Indore*, deprives us also, which we regret, of the particular information that is requisite for the explanation of the events under consideration.

Meer Khan, the instrument employed by *Holkar*, or forcing himself, perhaps, into his hands on the present occasion, is a Patan of the Rohilla tribe, who has rendered himself most distinguished, if not in the foundation, in the restoration, at least, of the fortune and dominion of his principal.

As the events, in detail, connect themselves in some measure with the history of these personages, a short account of them would seem necessary, to shew the origin of their acquaintance with each other, and the relation of each to the rajah, the other principal party in the transactions about to be recorded.

Meer Khan, a soldier of fortune, born at *Furruckabad*, first entered the service of *Madajee Scindea*, under the auspices of *Muzzuffer Khan*, in whose cavalry he received his military initiation. The Mahratta prince shortly afterwards died; by which event the services of Meer Khan, with those of

* Vid. Proclamation of Supreme Government, page 16, Bengal Occurrences.

his immediate patron Muzzuffer Khan, were transferred to his successor, *Dowlut Rao Scindea*. The prince just named, immediately on his succession, entered into an alliance with the *Peishwa*, which had for its object the destruction of *Holkar's* power, that had increased of late to such a height, as to occasion considerable alarm to these the principal Mahratta potentates. The force of *Holkar* was then in the vicinity of *Poonah*, and exposed to the attack of the confederates, which was instantly determined on, and prosecuted without any declaration of hostilities.

Muzzuffer Khan, and his protegè, took part with the assailants, and contributed their assistance to the defeat, which followed, of the unprepared and unaided chieftain. *Holkar* betook himself, in his misfortune, to the *rajah* of *Nagpore*, either in the promise, or reasonable expectation of succour; but he had scarcely passed the frontier of he rajah, before he was made a prisoner by his orders, and thrown into the dungeon of a neighbouring fortress.

Some intrigues prevailed, at this juncture, among the ladies, who, by Eastern custom, had recently passed, by no unusual transition, with other goodly possessions, from the deceased *Madajee Scindea* to the protection of the reigning prince; which produced in the end not only a separation of the dissatisfied females of the court, but of several valuable officers from the service of the state; including among the latter, *Muzzuffer Khan*, and his young military pupil. The latter, having accompanied the ladies of Madajee Scindea's household to one of the ancient residencies of the family in Hindustan, finished his employment with *Dowlut Rao Scindea* by this act of chivalry, and afterwards cast his eye around in search of a new master, to whom he might transfer his fealty, and the fluctuating services of a train of military followers. A master soon presented himself in the person of *Holkar*, who just at this moment had escaped by stratagem from his prison, and stood in need of an active partisan for promoting his complicate plans of aggrandizement, and of revenge. Conditions were soon concluded between parties so necessary to each other: and from this time the most cordial attachment prevailed between them.

They both betook themselves to *Indore*, where they set about the increase of their several retainers; who in a short time formed a band, competent, in the opinions of the two adventurers, to measure its strength, with the more organized force of Dowlut Rao Scindea. A miscalculation of military power, proceeding perhaps from the personal malignity of *Holkar* towards Scindea, arising out of his late discomture, embroiled the two adverse chieftains in hostility, before the means of the former had grown into maturity for their object; and the consequence was a second defeat, but not so complete in itself, or perilous in its consequences, as the first. Though *Holkar* was several times beaten by his opponent, and chased beyond the confines of Malwa in a southern direction into Candeish, where he arrived with a bare remnant of his forces, and a few chosen commanders, he yet manifested in the course of the warfare several instances of great address, and of courage, and carried with him the spirit and the reputation of a soldier, which enabled him to preserve his own opinion, and what was of more importance in his affairs, to keep up the confidence of his adherents. In a retired spot, on the bank of the *Tapty*, where the supineness, or the mistaken policy of his adversary had suffered the defeated chieftain to rest, *Holkar*, and his active coadjutor, *Meer Khan*, did not despond and sink beneath their condition, but immediately studied and pursued the means, in recruiting their wasted numbers, for the retrieval of their lost fortunes. In the course of an inconsiderable interval a third host was raised by these persevering adventurers, exceeding both the former in numbers, and apparently in discipline and equipment, with which *Holkar* again resolved on prosecuting his first and favourite scheme, the destruction of his rival. Taught by preceding reverses, or recovering his prudence as h..

passions subsided, *Holkar* waited, instead of forcing, as in the last instance, an opportunity for effecting his purpose; and this at length arose, and produced the opposition to *Scindea's* declared design on the government of the *Peishwa*. This brought the opposed Mahratta chieftains a third time in face of one another, in the vincinity of Poonah, and ended in a well-contested action, in which *Holkar*, in his turn, had a most decided triumph over his adversary. The event of this contest determined the flight of the *Peishwa*, from his capital to the *Cokun*, his temporary residence at, and finally the treaty of *Bassein*, with its consequences, the subsequent Mahratta wars, in which the British Indian government took so distinguished a part. But the splendid military achievements, which successively marked these wars, and their events, must be fresh in the remembrance of the reader.

The opportunities offered to *Meer Khan*, for the display of his military talent, during the latter operations, were seized and improved, and the success of his different enterprises, won from his master repeated acknowledgments, and secured to him several solid marks of approbation, in the grant of successive Jaghires, first of the province of *Seronge*, on the eastern side of Malwâ, not distant from the southern border of *Bundlecund*, and next of the fort and territory of *Tonk Rampoora*, near *Cotah*; with all the honours, and privileges that attach themselves to the favourites of arbitrary sovereignty.

On the conclusion of the war in 1806, which placed the government of *Holkar* on a more permanent footing, that chieftain seems to have abandoned the pursuit of military glory, and to have fallen into personal indulgences, to which he was always prone, that have debilitated and impaired his intellects, if they may not be said to have wholly and utterly obscured them. As the powers of the prince have declined, the authority of his general has increased, and of late years has controuble the public acts of the Durbar.

In this state of things, it may be supposed that a designing and enterprising mind, aided by great personal influence, might sway a weak prince to any purpose, though at the hazard of his interests. If *Meer Khan* has affected not to assume the sovereignty itself, the circumstance may, perhaps, be ascribed not so much to moderation in himself, as to the want of means to support a government, which had for some time degenerated under the feeble management of its head, and at the moment stood in need of resources for its immediate support. The dilapidated and distracted state of affairs at the time, now meditated, induced a policy suited to it; which might have a tendency in its success, equally to supply the necessities of the state, as to administer to the particular plans of the Khan. Towards the end of the year 1809, the weak infatuated prince was encouraged by *Meer Khan* and stimulated by the ladies of the Mahal, the ready instruments of intrigue in an Eastern state, to prosecute an ancient grudge, which has been described, against the *rajah* of *Nagpore*; who had grown up in the mean time into consequence, and had amassed great wealth. The latter circumstance was lure enough in itself, in the desperate state of the finances at Indore, without the additional motive of revenge, to open the ear of *Holkar* to the interested advice of his favourite. A detachment of infantry, with suitable artillery, is immediately directed, to give effect to the Khan's counsel. The extent of the armament is, in the first instance, confined, not only that it may not excite the attention, in its progress, of the neighbouring powers, but that, by the quick preparation and movement of the force, it may effect the views of its leader, without advertising the rajah of its approach. In the month of September the Khan moved from Indore, with a respectable body of infantry and guns, towards the kingdom of Nagpore; strengthening himself as he proceeded, with a large body of Pindarries, or irregular horse, that have taken and maintained possession for many years, of an ex-

tensive woody tract, in the vicinity of *Bopal*. Above 12,000 of the latter description of troops, living on plunder, and fed by the hope of it, attached themselves to the Mahratta camp.

The evident intention of the Khan was to extort a sum of money from the rajah, by the sudden impression, which was likely to be made by the appearance of the Mahratta troops in the vicinity of Nagpore. But he did not neglect to contemplate some demur to the demand, which he was authorised, as he pretended, to make, when he should approach the rajah's territories. As ulterior proceedings might be necessary, a second detachment under Mahommed Shah Khan, was ordered to follow in his rear, much more powerful in cavalry and artillery, and more numerous even in infantry, than the force immediately particularised.

There was no apparent reason for this armament, but the poverty of the treasury at Indore, and the private policy of the Khan; and no pretence for the designed exaction but the stale and common demand of a choute, said to be owing for years, from the territories of the rajah, to the northern lords, and which was magnified, to suit the exigency, to many lacks of rupees. It would therefore seem to have required, of which the Khan was sensible, something of an imposing aspect to enforce compliance with so preposterous a pretension.

As the Khan moved forward to *Nagpore*, he affected to pay attention to the smaller states about him, who were supposed to be gathered under the British protection, and when he was about to enter the rajah's frontier, he made a shew of explanation in letters addressed to the British government, of the purpose, for which he was about to penetrate the country of its ally, under the commands, as he chose to represent, of his master, and for the adjustment of a long subsisting claim. But the purpose was meant to be executed, before the British government should be apprised of its merits.

By the end of the month of September, the *Khan* had arrived at the frontier of *Nagpore*, and as he had desired, and foreseen, the immediate impression of his force, and the expectation of a much larger body which was known to be marching in his rear, whose numbers were in consequence increased by the tenour of reiterated rumours, had an instant effect on the rajah's commander, *Suddick Ali Khan*, who had collected what force, he could suddenly draw together, on the reported approach of the Mahrattas, with the intention of resisting their progress. Such, however, was the actual formidable appearance of the military in his front, and such the apprehension of the unknown force in reserve, that the commandant at *Nagpore* scarcely allowed the *Khan* to tell the object of his mission, and state the extent of his demand, before it was acceded to in all its terms, and formal assurances given for an unqualified compliance with it. *Meer Khan* undertook to wait, for the ratification of these assurances on the borders of the kingdom of Nagpore: but the *rajah*, when he became acquainted with the pusillanimous, or, possibly the temporising conduct of his commandant, positively refused to afford it his sanction; gave orders for the augmentation of his force on the frontier provinces of his kingdom, and consulted the necessary military measures for the defence of his territories. He could not fail, at such a crisis, to represent the unprovoked and unreasonable nature of the attack to the British resident at his court, and to demand the protective arm of his powerful ally in repelling so outrageous an aggression. The supreme government, from obvious policy, as well as justice, might be supposed to be inclined to the representation of the British resident in favour of the rajah; as the result of hostile operations between these powers might create confusion in the bordering states; might unduly increase the power of an ambitious prince, and introduce eventually, in the person of Meer Khan, a troublesome neighbour in a territory adjoining the British possessions.

Whether all or any of these considerations, or the frivolous and unjust pretence of the Durbar of Indore, which might be renewed and extended to any length, and on any and every occasion, determined the councils of the British government, it may not be material to enquire; for whatever the policy that dictated, the acts counselled were prompt and decisive. The supreme government appears, from the instant of the application of the rajah, to have taken the readiest means of interposing the British assistance against the violent encroachments of the Mahratta state. Orders were given for assembling at the same time a sufficient army in the *Deccan*, and in Bundlecund, to act in co-operation with each other, in covering and protecting the capital and dominions of the rajah.

So soon as *Meer Khan* was apprised of the refusal of the rajah to countenance the unauthorised act of his agent, and of the application preferred to the British government, he was convinced of the necessity of instant operations and he accordingly entered, and ravaged the borders of the rajah's territories, and threatened the invasion of the interior by the powerful forces in his rear.

But the troops of the rajah had been increased in the interval, and being now more prepared, and encouraged by the promise of protection, manfully resisted the inroads of the invaders, and so far from success attending the Khan in the expected impression on the rajah's territories, he was actually worsted in several engagements; still, however, he shewed not any intention of abandoning his anticipated prey, but hung upon the frontier, in the hope of harassing and vexing the inhabitants, a common practice with the Mahrattas, into compromise or compliance. Before he could produce this disposition, on the present occasion, the British armies were in motion, from their several points, towards the position of the Mahratta chieftain.

Col. Close, to whom the chief command of the different armaments was confided, quitted *Jaulna*, with a force, of various description, amounting in the aggregate to about 10,000 men, some time in the month of December, with an intention, at first, to march upon Nagpore; but this design was departed from on the receipt of intelligence, that the Khan had not moved, as expected, towards the capital, but, on the contrary, had evinced a disposition to retreat from the Rajah's territories. In consequence of this information the Colonel took a more westerly course, towards *Husseinabad*; expecting that the Khan might return to the western side of India, whence he had proceeded in his march forwards. When the Khan, however, heard of this movement, he took an opposite route, and marched, in a more easterly direction, to *Seronge*; whither the colonel also advanced, without loss of time; and imagining that the Khan might take post at the latter place, he hastened across the Nerbuddah, with great rapidity, with the view of offering him battle, or of inducing his further retreat into the interior of Holkar's territories, and consequently the utter abandonment of the design on the Nagpore state.

While *colonel Close* was advancing in the rapid manner explained, *colonel Martindell* proceeded with a second army, of great strength, from the province of Bundlecund, the borders of which he passed towards the end of January, and entered the Mahratta territories. From the change in the direction of the retreat of Meer Khan, which was influenced as has been shewn, by the movement of colonel Close, the commandant of the Bengal detachment supposed, that the Mahratta adventurer might intend to pursue a course towards the western boundaries of Bundlecund, and add strength to an insurrection, which had for some time raged in the adjacent territory. He therefore did not venture to quit the border of Bundlecund, until he should be able to ascertain more perfectly the Khan's intentions. These were made known to him, shortly afterwards, by a communication from colonel Close, which advised him, that the Khan had taken

up a seemingly permanent position at *Seronge*, and requiring him to move forward to the southern border of the province, to watch the Khan's rear.

While Col. *Martindell* moved in the direction described, colonel Close advanced to Seronge; when the Mahratta commandant, so soon as he was informed of his approach, and of the judicious contemporaneous movements on his side and rear, suddenly quitted *Seronge*, retreated across the *Jumna*, and appeared from all his demonstrations, to have completely abandoned his project. At this place, the colonel appears to have dropped the intention of further serious pursuit, though he ordered colonel *Martindell* to take up a position a march or two in advance. After waiting at *Seronge* for a few days, for the purpose of refreshing his troops, and informing himself of the Khan's determination, colonel *Close* began to make preparations for his return to the *Deccan*; and after leaving colonel Martindell in charge, reconducted his army to its former cantonments without the slightest loss, except from the usual casualties of a fatiguing march in the month of April.

The British commandant, in desisting from his pursuit, at this instant, and under these circumstances, might probably have been determined by the aspect of affairs at *Indore*; which began to wear such an appearance of difficulty and embarrassment, as to claim, in all probability, the closest attention of the Khan, who had no secondary interest in their arrangements for many months to come. This had been occasioned by the prime minister having usurped, during the imbecility of Holkar, and the absence of Meer Khan, the actual power of the state, which the Begum was endeavouring by stratagem to rescue from his hands, to commit it, in favour of her son, to the keeping of Meer Khan, an apparently dangerous guardian for an infant prince.* The extrication of the Khan from the unsuccessful project

* The following anecdotes, which are told of this Mahratta chieftain, would not seem to justify the prudent care of a mother in the choice of a protector for her child.

"Maun Sing, the present Rajah of Jodepoor, had been for some time past engaged in a conflict with his tributaries, and principal chieftains, who, in combination with the Rajah of Jeypoor, support the claims of an infant son of the late Rajah Bheen Sing, but born after the death of that Prince. Finding himself deprived of his dominions, and driven for refuge to a fortress near Jodepoor, Maun Sing called in the assistance of Meer Khan, who was at that period in the service of Holkar. The reinforcement however proved insufficient to enable him to cope with so powerful a combination, and he saw himself reduced to the necessity of either surrendering, or removing some of his most powerful opponents by stratagem; this he proposed to Meer Khan, who instantly consented to become the instrument of treachery under certain conditions of remuneration. In execution of his dark designs, Meer Khan, under pretence of being disgusted with Maun Sing's conduct, left Jodepoor, with every appearance of rage and discontent, and offered his services to Suwaee Sing, as anxious to avenge his own wrongs by associating with that party. The Rajpore chiefs, however, doubting his sincerity, required him to give proof of it by destroying some of the neighbouring villages belonging to Jodepoor; to which he consented without hesitation, secretly conveying the intelligence to Maun Sing. This test being still deemed insufficient, Meer Khan, in the most solemn manner at the tomb of a celebrated Saint, invoked the name of God, the Koran, and the Saint to witness his sincerity. Suwaee Sing now no longer doubting, they exchanged Turbans, the most sacred and unequivocal pledge of friendship, and Meer Khan invited him with the other chieftains to partake of an entertainment in his camp. Although strongly urged by his confederates to beware of treachery, Suwaee Sing accepted the invitation, declaring it to be his belief that after such solemn vows, Meer Khan could not possibly prove false. The other chieftains of the party finding their efforts to detain their leader were all fruitless, returned to their respective camps, while Suwaee Sing proceeded with Meer Khan, accompanied by 500 guards and attendants, and Juggut Sing, a near relation, who was resolved to share the same fate which he also had foreseen, but had endeavoured in vain to avert. The previous arrangements for this dreadful tragedy displayed in the strongest colours the monster who directed them. A tent of uncommon size called a dulbaudul was thoroughly soaked with water to render it heavier; men were stationed at each of the ropes, who upon a preconcerted signal were to cut them, and a party of armed Soldiers around were instructed to finish the scene. On arriving at the encampment, Suwaee Sing's guards dispersed themselves, and he, with his relation, Juggut Sing,

explained, through the forbearance of his adversary, enabled him to proceed to Holkar's camp, and to favour the intrigue, for it cannot be called policy, of the too credulous Begum.*

As the interesting march of colonel Close, through the different Mahratta states, is minutely traced in a subsequent department of the register,† we shall be excused in adding but little to the foregoing hasty description of it, and more especially as it appears not to have been marked by any striking events to diversify and enliven the way. It concluded, as has been noticed, after several months duration, at *Seronge*; whence it had not been held necessary to pursue the further retrograde footsteps of the Khan; the policy of the British government having been apparently fulfilled, on the dereliction of the object that had provoked its interference.

The circumstances of the march, as well as the dispositions made in it, seemed everywhere as creditable to the British commandant, as the result—the compulsion of the adverse commander to quit position after position, to change his plans and his purposes, and finally to relinquish his enterprise without a single effort to sustain it, or a solitary instance of resistance.

The views of the British government appear from the first to the last to have been governed by a defensive and protective policy, and they seem to have been eminently promoted by the peculiar genius, and the conduct of the commander to whom they were recommended. Colonel *Close* had not to prosecute a campaign in a declaredly hostile temper; nor to seek those advantages that attend and signalize the ordinary course of war; but had to menace and prevent the execution of a desperate design, that might have ended, without precaution, in the humiliation of an useful ally, and in the interruption of the general peace of India.

This he accomplished, with the prudence of a statesman, as well as the true science and courage of a general: always having before his eyes the end of his campaign, and always making the fit demonstrations, as might alternately be necessary, to attain it, by wisdom or by valour.

This singular sort of military operations is little calculated to add to the reputation of the soldier, or the splendour of his government, but it is a field of useful and necessary employment, in which a British officer, from local peculiarities, must often engage, without hoping to bear away from it any other trophy, than a branch of barren laurel.

The military transactions, that require our next attention, were dictated in a distinct policy from the latter, and were attended with dissimilar results. These operations were occasioned by the incursion of *Gopaul Sing*, a Poligar prince, into a petty state in Bundlecund, with the design of recovering a district, from which he had been removed by the power of the British government, that had recently been exerted in favour of another chief (Buckhelbullee) who is stated to be the rightful proprietor, and who was then on a pilgrimage to Benares.

The deposed Poligar, whatever his

and a considerable number of his officers, entered the tent. After sitting a short time in friendly conversation, Meer Khan on some slight pretence left the tent, requested his guests to excuse his temporary absence; two of his relations also, who were seated on each side of Juggut Sing, attempted to rise and follow, but were detained by that chief, who insisted, in a jocular manner, on their remaining. Meer Khan seeing the impossibility of saving his relations, gave the fatal signal, and the immense tent was suddenly dropped upon the assembly. The guards, stationed without, immediately commenced the massacre by firing a volley upon the tent, and then with the sword butchered all those who endeavoured to escape. Juggut Sing on the first alarm of the tent falling, dispatched with two blows of his dagger the relations of Meer Khan on each side of him, then drew his sword and cut his way through the tent, and did not fall until he had killed many of his blood-thirsty assassins.

* For a particular account of this transaction, see page 106, Madras Occurrences.
† See page 416, et infrà.

pretensions, had engaged, it seems, in the support of them, many strenuous and hardy followers, with whom he had not only made a descent on the adherents of the rival chief in possession, but had completely routed their collective forces. This act of contumacy, which occurred at the beginning of the year 1810, naturally provoked the re-exertion of the British power, in protection of the favoured poligar, and induced colonel *Martindell*, under instructions from Calcutta, to detach a part of his force, then assembling for the purpose already mentioned, in the southern extremity of Bundlecund, for the repulsion of the aggression of Gopaul Sing, and for the chastisement of the supposed insult. The aim therefore of the operations, under these circumstances, contradistinguished from those we have lately noticed, was to suppress the revolt by active and energetic means, and to lose not any opportunity, that might present itself, for bringing the refractory poligar to engagement, without allowing him leisure to strengthen and recruit his forces between the intervals of the successive attacks. With this design, *major Kelly* was detached by colonel *Martindell* from Chatterpoor, early in the month of January, with a force adequate, as it was supposed, to the immediate suppression of the insurrection. But before he could reach the spot, where Gopaul Sing was understood to be posted, that chieftain had removed with his booty up the hills, that run in a longitudinal line, with a western inclination, along the whole extent from north to south of Bundlecund.

The major lost not any time in following him up the first pass of the mountains, which he ascended with alacrity and perseverance, but did not reach the summit before the Poligar, who had an intimate knowledge of the different ranges of the hills and their approaches, had safely placed himself in the passage of the second Ghaut. As major Kelly's orders were limited, and his return to colonel *Martindell's* camp prescribed, he was here obliged to leave the pursuit, to join the main body of the army.

A small party, under captain *Wilson* was left to observe the movements of the Poligar, at the foot of the pass, and to prevent if possible, his descent into the open country.

Gopaul Sing, on hearing of the retirement of the larger force, prepared to move down to the plain, leaving the larger part of his force above the hill, but with a sufficient body to discountenance an attack from the British party; which fell back, as he approached, on *Kokherettee*. Being reinforced at the latter place, captain *Wilson* again moved forward, to prevent the Poligar from plundering the circumjacent country, and came up with him on the 18th of February, in a very strong position, at a village called Peereerea, between the Ghauts; and which he attempted to carry by assault, but was repulsed with considerable loss, leaving *Gopaul Sing* in possession of the field, and a number of prisoners: to whose comfort and care the Poligar chieftain personally attended, and sent them afterwards, a rare instance of generosity, with a safe escort to the British quarters. Having overrun the district, and availed himself of the resources of which he stood in need, the Poligar again ascended the Ghaut, just at the time that major *Delamain*, with a squadron of cavalry, had joined captain *Wilson*, and taken upon himself the command of the detachment. The major, with his increased force, watched the different approaches to the hills, but the Poligar contrived to elude his vigilance, by moving further along the ridge of the mountains, and rushing suddenly down on the cantonments of *Terrowah*, on the 7th of March, destroyed these and the other public buildings, as far as practicable, by fire; major *Morgan* with five companies of the 7th native, having ineffectually attempted to interpose by a rapid movement from *Adjheegur*. From the surprise, and partial destruction of the cantonments of *Terrowah*, the Poligar directed his course to *Dow-*

callee and *Rypoor*, between which villages he encamped, supplying himself with provisions and other requisites in their neighbourhood; having chosen, as a place of encampment, a position, with a deep Nullah in his front, and a range of high hills in his rear.

To this place he was followed by major *Morgan* with additional troops, and artillery on the 14th of the same month; but, as the major drew near, *Gopaul Sing* detached his infantry under cover of the jungle in his rear, and discovered an apparent intention of waiting the assault of the British party with his cavalry alone, but as the former attempted to pass the Nullah in front, covered by their guns, the poligar drew off his forces up the side of the mountain, and moving onwards to join his infantry, dispatched some time before, he descended shortly afterwards into the plain, exactly at the spot, which major *Morgan* had last quitted, and set fire to every house in the cantonments, that had escaped the former conflagration, and plundered the opulent and flourishing town of Terrowah. He then fled to his fortresses on the hills, before major Morgan could regain his former station.

The news of these several devastations reached colonel *Martindell's* camp on the Mahratta frontier, who immediately dispatched colonel *Browne*, with the 1st regiment native cavalry, to the reinforcement of the several detachments in this quarter: and who on the 19th of the last mentioned month, surprised the Poligar, by a march of 44 miles the same day, at *Buchown*, not far distant from Adjheegur, and put his force, which amounted at this place to five or six hundred followers, to route, with the loss, as described, of 250 men. *Gopaul Sing*, himself, with his usual fortune, or address, reached with his followers the nearest pass, (Jena) made good his retreat, and then rallied his men.

The sudden defeat of *Gopaul Sing*, induced him to retire, with so many of his scattered followers as could be collected on the instant, to the fortress of Jhurgurh, where he hoped to maintain himself until he could recruit his forces, and increase his partisans. He was not permitted, however, to rest long, but was pursued by a fresh detachment, under the immediate command of captain *Wilson*. As the account of this enterprise is omitted in the ordinary occurrences of the year, it will be permitted to us to speak of it more particularly in this place, as it would seem to have a title to the reader's attention, not only from the brilliancy of the events attendant on it, but as elucidatory of the general nature of the warfare, in which the British troops were at this instant engaged.

The force of captain Wilson consisted of a squadron from the 3d native cavalry, and a galloper; two six-pounders, under lieutenant Timbrell, of artillery; captain Gibbs with the 1st battalion of the 16th native infantry; three companies of the 7th under captain Dare; and one company of pioneers.

So little was known, respecting the situation, strength, or particulars of the fort, to be attacked, or of the route, by which it was to be approached, that no plan of operations could be laid down. Aware, however, of the importance of secrecy of design, and celerity of movement, captain Wilson used all practicable expedition, to reach the scene of action, so as to take the enemy as much as possible by surprize. Accordingly, at three o'clock, on the morning of the 3d of April, the detachment moved from its ground, without the beat of drum, or the least noise; and soon after day light, gained the bottom of the Putna Pass, in the second range of hills, unseen and unheard. The next part of their route, was up a steep ascent of a mountain, covered with underwood and loose rocks; there stockades stretched across the line of their approach, and the hill that they had to climb, was commanded by higher eminences, from which the troops were liable to be galled by musquetry or cannon. The enemy, relying on the natural difficulties of the approach,

or unapprized of danger, from the celerity of the movement, had neglected the defence of the stockades.

A party of 200 Sepoys, with the company of pioneers, being pushed forward, made good their way; and after much fatigue, gained the summit of the steep, destroying in their ascent, the three stockades, without meeting the slightest opposition.

The squadron of cavalry then followed, and the whole of the detachment took post at the head of the Ghaut, where a detachment of the 16th was stationed, in order to secure the passage of the guns, stores, &c. while the advance pushed on to Jewrah, distant about three miles. Here a number of the enemy's match-lock men were discovered. They were taken completely by surprize; the first intimation they had of the Ghaut being approached, was the appearance of the Sepoys three miles beyond it. Thus surprized they were panic-struck, and precipitately fled to the jungle; but as the night set in, they began to collect and opened a desultory, ill directed fire, upon the rear guard and flankers, who, from the steepness of the ascent, and other difficulties, did not reach camp, till four or five o'clock on the following morning. The enemy continued their fire during the night, but without effect.

Day break, on the 4th of April, had been fixed for the commencement of the march from Jewrah, but the troops, particularly those of the rear guard, and the whole of the cattle, suffered so much from fatigue and want of food, that it was found impossible to move before mid-day. The detachment then advanced, and, at sun-set, reached the banks of a Nullah, where they encamped. On the following morning, they marched before sun rise for Jhugurh, distant about nine miles. On advancing about three miles, they came in view of a large village, from which a smart fire was opened on the detachment. It became necessary to dislodge the enemy from this post, a service that was quickly performed by a company of Sepoys. The village was then set on fire, and burned to the ground.

From this place for about three miles the flankers were exposed to the fire of the enemy, which, though harassing, occasioned no loss. When the detachment had advanced between three and four miles, from the scite of the burned village, information was obtained, that Jhugurh lay about two miles in advance. Upon this captain Gibbs with the 1st battalion of the 16th and the two six pounders were halted, while captain Wilson, with the squadron of cavalry, the galloper, three companies of the seventh, and the pioneers, pushed forward, to ascertain the nature of the ground, and the position of the fort; for no guides could be found, who either knew its exact situation, or the path that led to it.

In about half an hour, captain Wilson reached a valley, with a swampy bottom, surrounded on all sides by high hills, thickly covered with bamboos and underwood. Here the enemy's defences were seen:—A redoubt of about four feet and a half high, formed of trees piled on each other, several earth mounds, and other works, indicated that the principal strong hold was close at hand; though no enemy was seen. While hastily reconnoitering these works, one of the hill men was brought in. From him it was ascertained, that Gopaul Sing was himself in the fort with some horse, and about two hundred men—he pointed out a path, that led to the fort, and described its situation. Upon this information, captain Wilson, at the head of two companies of sepoys, the pioneers and twelve troopers, dashed forward, leaving the squadron, the remaining company of the seventh, and galloper, in the valley. The path led up a steep ascent, much obstructed by jungle: after pursuing its course, about seven hundred yards, the skirmishers in advance, discerned a lofty bamboo stockade, from which several match-lock men were apparently in haste to run off. Captain Wilson pressed forward as quickly as possible, and passing through three of these

bamboo stockades, reached a gate in the ramparts, which he entered, as the late garrison was hurrying down the steep descent, on the edge of which the fort was placed.

The position of Jhugurh was well chosen. The height and steepness of the rocks, and the closeness of the jungle, render it inaccessible on three sides; the fourth side, by which captain Wilson entered, was the only point from which it could be approached; and that was found so difficult, that a handful of men might have successfully defended it against an army.

In his haste to evacuate the fort, the enemy left behind him two tumbrils, several gun carriages, various stores, &c. all of which were burned by the captors. The bamboo stockades, and the redoubts, were also set on fire and consumed. The greater part of the 5th, and the whole of the 6th of April, were employed by the pioneers, assisted by 800 or 1000 camp followers, in levelling the works. This service being accomplished, the detachment quitted the ruins of Jhugurh, and marched back to Kockerettee.

Notwithstanding this disaster, the proceedings of *Gopaul Sing* at this time and hereafter, appear to have given full employment to three regiments of infantry, under as many different commanders, one regiment of native cavalry, two separate squadrons of horse of distinct corps, and a complement of artillery; aided by a considerable allied native force: and all of these, with a zeal, activity, and perseverance, highly creditable to the several commanders, and usually conducive to success, have directed their several and conjoint operations against this adventurous chieftain, and have at various seasons reduced his affairs to so low an ebb, that his utter destruction has not only been anticipated, but at different times announced; when, with energy and resources, apparently unconquerable and unbounded, he starts up again into activity and power, ascending and descending, but in an inverse course, as his fortunes rise or fall, and alternately pursuing or pursued. In this way has he maintained his precarious and circumscribed affairs against the united force opposed to him, for more than a year.

It would be tedious to pursue his movements, and the exploits which they induced, one by one, in monotonous description,* but it will be sufficient to say, that after an incessant and never-sleeping pursuit of the different British commandants, which has been justly appreciated and approved by the governor-general of India, the Poligar remained unsubdued at the end of the period, to which this historical sketch extends; avoiding, in a steady adherence to the policy, so necessary to his safety and existence, a general action with his pursuers, or a departure from the hills, the naturally designed theatre for the developement and display of his peculiar talent.

Without a more precise information of the cause of these hostile proceedings, than is at present possessed by us, it would be presumptuous to offer any opinion, how far it might be prudent to relax in the prosecution of it; but it is impossible to behold the genius and constancy of the adventurer before us, tinctured as it is with a degree of humanity and magnanimity seldom felt or exercised by a kindred chieftain, without wishing that some fortunate circumstance may present itself which may afford the means to him of conciliation with the British government, or of averting the last efforts of its vengeance.

The peace of the presidency of Bombay was not interrupted, in the period under notice, by any of those events that too frequently disturb the tranquillity of Asiatic states; except the insurrectionary practices of a furious Mahommedan Fanatic at *Mandvie*, in the province of Surat, may be reckoned of that description. But these disorderly proceedings were

* For an account of the particular operations of the British troops, and of the movements of their judicious and intrepid commanders, the reader is referred to the Bengal Occurrences, at pages 9, 10. 61. to 64, and from 78 to 80.

quelled so soon, almost, as they were known to Mr. Crow, the chief of the province.

It appears, that the fanatic, who had raised a temporary commotion, and had committed several depredatory acts in the territories of the Rajah of Mandvie, was a religious; a Faquir, of the name of Ubdul Rheman, styling himself Mean Sahib; and pretending that his mission was foretold in sacred writ, and his purpose peaceable and holy—but which, he pursued, as these prophets of peace sometimes do, by the means of a violent and unprovoked attack on the subjects of the Rajah, putting them and the Rajah himself to flight, and his vizier and many followers to death. While he was practising these outrages, he proclaimed to the deluded numbers, who flocked for a while about his person, "that he was a Faquir, sent down from the fourth sky, with four bodies; combining *Adam*, (on whom be peace!) *Essah*, the son of *Marium*, Jesus, the son of *Mary*, and *Ahmud*, (on whom be peace!) and they have all four come upon one place; they have no guns nor musquets with them, but a *stick* and a *handkerchief* are with me—be yourself prepared."

The Pseudo prophet not only circulated this his wild and extraordinary manifesto among the credulous and change-loving Mahomedans, at that time assembled for the celebration of the *Ede*, but had the temerity to forward it to the British chief, calling on him to embrace the Mahommedan religion, and challenging him to fight, or otherwise to quit Surat. This, and other similar mad antics, were played off for several days, from the 10th to the 18th of January, 1810, during which interval, the Faquir took up his abode under his alleged sacred banner, the stick and the handkerchief, in the penetralia of a mosque at Boodhan, about ten coss on the opposite side of the river, from Surat; whither he had enticed a number of Arabian devots, and had drawn to him many mussulmans, either from inconstancy or a worse motive, from the last-mentioned city, and other bordering towns; where great consternation for some time prevailed among the Hindoo inhabitants, from the wanton acts of the Mahomedans, and from the threatened fulfilment of the Faquir's prophecy. But the consternation at length was allayed by measures, that usually prove efficacious in silencing the pretensions of impostors and their infatuated followers. Mr. *Crow*. perceiving that the partisans of *Ubdul Rheman*, were increasing daily, and that his effrontery increased with his numbers, determined, about the last-mentioned date, to call in the aid of the military power of the province, to stay the progress of the revolt, and to chastise the insolence or infatuation of the pretended prophet. A small force of cavalry and infantry were ordered on this service, attended by some civil officers of the Rajah of *Mandvie*, among whom was the Vakeel of the Rajah. The latter having accompanied the military to the river near *Boodhan*, was the first to ford it, with the intent of addressing the Faquir, and persuading him to surrender himself to a force, which he had not the means of resisting; and where an ineffectual resistance might plunge himself and followers in irretrievable ruin. While engaged in this friendly office, the Vakeel and his attendants were beset and butchered by the fanatic and frantic adherents of the Faquir. This brought on a furious engagement between the troops and the rabble, assembled under the colours of the impostor, which continued for some time, and was encouraged by all the arts resorted to in such enterprizes, by religious hymns and incantations, which were sung with deafening din, stimulated by a raving bigot, and maddened by intoxicating drugs; but the resistance, after raging for a while, and producing a partial but temporary mischief, gave way, in the regular course of things, to the steady courage, and disciplined efforts of the organized troops; who put an end to the mad enterprise, by the dispersion of the populace, and the death of their deluded leader. More than two hundred were left dead on the field, but of these only three belonged to the British party.

Captain *Cunningham*, who had

charge of the troops, followed the insurgents, that had escaped, to *Mandvie*, where they served as a reinforcement to a party of Arabs, who had originally possessed themselves of that town. Immediate care was taken to surround the place, until a sufficient force should arrive for the assault of the works; but which were surrendered on the 22d, and peace again restored in the Rajah's capital. The end of this commotion might not, perhaps, have been so tragical, if more timely means had been adopted for its suppression. The sword, the last resort of regular warfare, should often, we will not say always, be the first in insurrectionary tumults. Prompt, though severe measures, are more merciful often in their issue, than temporizing, irresolute proceedings, which afford a sort of parley, in a case that seems to demand an instantaneous decision.

Though no integral part of the territory or dependencies of Bombay, was threatened by civil discord, or warlike attack, yet the military force of this presidency was employed in effecting an object very materially connected with its internal interests.

But the military operations on this side of India, must be viewed, not as directed or governed by any new events, but as a continuation, or rather conclusion of an enterprise, that had been began, and had been in a state of prosecution, within the preceding year.

In the last volume of the Register, the reader was presented with an account of the proceedings of a considerable military and naval armament, fitted out at Bombay against the *Jowassimee* pirates in the Persian gulph; which, under the several commands of lieutenant-colonels *Walker* and *Smith*, and of captain *Wainwright*, of the *Chiffonne*, had gained several advantages over these daring marauders.* The expedition was pursued, in all its operations, to the capture of *Rhus ul Khyma*, and was left in the pursuit of the remaining objects of the equipment. It is now our purpose to follow it, through the other stages of its progress, to the reduction of the desperate predatory hordes, stretched along the gulph, and to the restoration, so far as it may be practicable, of the towns and possessions on the Arabian coast, lately arrested from the hands of our ally the Imaum of Muscat.

Immediately on the fall of *Rus ul Khyma*, the expedition proceeded to *Linga*, where it succeeded, without any opposition, in destroying several of the dows and boats, and thence sailed to the port of *Luft*, on the north side of the isle of *Khisma*, where it arrived towards the end of November, and where, it was expected, it would effect its purposes, as in the latter instance, by peaceable means. This expectation seemed to be confirmed by the receipt of a message from the chief *Moola Hussein*, which was sent on board his majesty's ship Chiffonne, at the moment of her anchoring off the town: this was accompanied by a proposal for the surrender of all the vessels attached to the port at an appointed hour. But when the time approached for the surrender, it seemed, that the piratical chief had changed his mind, and had ranged and disposed his dows and boats in such a manner, as to indicate an intention to defend them with all his force. Arrangements were therefore immediately made to obtain, by compulsory means, what was first promised, but ultimately denied to amicable solicitation. On the morning succeeding the message, a party of 300 men were landed from the shipping, with suitable artillery, who took possession of the town, and destroyed the whole of the piratical flotilla, eleven in number, and proceeded to the assault of the fort, which was defended for some time with determined bravery. But the smartness of the fire of the Fairy brig, and the gun boats, which approached, notwithstanding the shallows, near to the walls of the fortress, powerfully seconding the efforts of the artillery on shore, the fort was delivered up, after an obstinate re-

* Vide page 18; et infra, vol. xi.

sistance by *Moola Hussain*, together with the plundered property from the Imaum. On the following day, these were given into the hands of their rightful owner, through his deputy, *Sheik Lervish*, the head of a tribe of Arabs.

The troops employed consisted principally of his majesty's 47th and 65th regiments, and the royal marines, aided by a number of seamen from the *Chiffonne*. The advantage was not obtained without a very considerable loss—the killed amounting to ten, and the wounded to fifty-six. Among the former was lieutenant *Weld*, of his majesty's 47th regiment, and the latter, lieutenant *S. R. Warren*, of his majesty's 65th; Mr. *Hay*, midshipman of the Mornington, and Mr. *Grey*, of the Ternate. The loss on the part of the enemy was between seventy and eighty men.

The chief, from the gallantry, perhaps, of his conduct, was permitted to retire in safety.

The next operation of this gallant and persevering little squadron, was more important in its preparation, its object, and its consequences, though it were impossible to be more fortunate in its immediate issue, than the preceding service. This was directed, not by the British force alone, but in conjunction with a large body of the *Imaum's* troops, against the strong and well-known fort of *Scheenaass*. The irresistible ardour of the British troops had kindled, at length, something like a similar fire in the cooler bosom of our ally; who now no longer questioning or doubting, from the evidence of many successive victories, that valour and discipline may supply the place of numerical strength, cheerfully lent the assistance of 4000 men, for the accomplishment of this, the apparently ultimate object of the armament. The allied forces, naval as well as military, being duly equipped at *Muscat*, departed on the expedition towards the end of the month of December, and by the commencement of the ensuing month, had arrived off *Scheenaas*, and summoned the fort to surrender. It was too strong and formidable a position, and defended by too numerous a garrison, to warrant any other conclusion, but that it would be maintained to the last extremity: the refusal of the summons by the garrison was therefore a matter of no surprise.

On the first approach of the squadron, it was perceived, that the situation of the fort was not favourable to an attack by sea; several shots having been ineffectually aimed at the outworks of the fortress, which either fell short of their mark, or with languid impression on the walls. It was thereupon resolved, that the whole of the military force attached to the expedition, should be landed on the beach to the south of the town, which being disembarked on the morning of the 2d of January, took up a strong position behind a narrow creek, running parallel to one of the sides of the fort. Several pieces of artillery were sent across the creek, in front of the position, by lieutenant-colonel *Smith*, with the intent of advancing against the southern side of the fort, without any regular approaches; but the alertness of the enemy in that quarter discountenanced an irregular attack, and led to the recall of the officers and party in charge of the artillery.

Colonel *Smith* now entrenched himself in his first position, and placed a train of field pieces, opposite to the sea-face of the fort. The battery opened a very heavy fire on the following morning at day-break, and before ten o'clock the same morning, such was the operative effect of the British artillery, a practicable breach was made in the curtain, with the destruction of one of the towers of the fort. The guns were levelled against the remaining towers, and, though incessantly plied, did not force the enemy from these strong and well-defended holds, which he seemed determined on maintaining to the last extremity, and giving a specimen of the resistance to be expected by his present vigorous exertions.

By two o'clock in the afternoon, the storming party, consisting of a large proportion of British infantry,

and four hundred of the *Imaum's* troops, moved forward, for the purpose of entering the fort by the breach; in which service the allied force, either from some error in the conception of the orders given to it, or by an ungovernable ardour in the cause, endeavoured to outstrip their competitors, the British, in arriving first at the mouth of the breach; but the latter perceiving their design, and resolving not to be outdone in valour or in zeal, rushed forward at the same moment, and actually raced for the possession of the post of honour, and pressed so closely on the heels of the allies, as to threaten in the contest, the order of the assault. The confusion, however, was but momentary; when the several descriptions of troops directed their united efforts against the enemy, who, deserting generally, the works of the fortress, which lay every where in ruins, had retired to the yet standing, but tottering towers; where he had brought himself to the desperate resolution of making his ultimate stand. With the exception of these towers, two in number, the British and Imaumees were in complete possession of the fort, and were now using all their efforts, to the single object of their reduction. Several attempts were made, but in vain, to scale them; every access being strongly barricadoed, and defended with spears, and every sort of adverse missile. Many times the party within was ineffectually, though warmly and vehemently requested to accept of terms. But the enemy still held out, and seemed determined to bury himself within his walls; which now fell fast about him, under the heavy fire of two twelve-pounders, and several smaller pieces of artillery, which were brought to bear upon the towers. The hand grenades and fire balls, which were thrown at intervals on the besieged, were returned with deliberate, resolution, before they could explode, on the heads of the besiegers, with a diverted and opposite effect. The towers, at this time, seemed to be every where giving way, when the fire of the artillery was ordered to cease, to give the obstinate, but courageous enemy a last opportunity of saving himself for a more availing purpose, if he should at length be induced to profit by the repeated kindness of an honourable adversary. When one man, owning at length that confidence in the English character, which it is calculated, by its fixed and undeviating tenor, to inspire, accepted the clemency of his victor, and, after some entreaty, prevailed in exciting a similar sentiment in his reluctantly-believing and mistaken fellow-soldiers. The persuasion of these deluded men to receive the proferred mercy, was rendered more difficult from the circumstance of the animosity that subsisted between them and the Imaumees, which would hardly allow the first to believe it was possible that clemency could connect itself with any action, in which the latter should bear a part. They would not appear to have miscalculated the temper to be expected from one of the allies, in the hour of their success, if trust had been reposed in their separate engagement, since it was scarcely praccable to restrain them, notwithstanding the conditions, offered and accepted, from the massacre of the subdued and protected enemy. The unceasing exertions of colonel Smith, and the gallant officers immediately under his command, were happily availing, but not without severe trial, to fulfil the literal terms of the surrender, and to give a signal proof, equally instructive, it may be hoped, in its tendency, as profitable in the application, towards the victors and the vanquished, how success is to be improved by grace, and how courage is enhanced by mercy.

The loss of the English and the allies, in this desperate attack, did not exceed one killed and eleven wounded. Among the latter, were lieutenants W. C. Harvey and H. Taylor, of his majesty's 65th regiment. The loss of the enemy amounted to 400.

After the success just noticed, the expedition proceeded against the other ports in the gulph, where the pirates themselves spared the British troops the trouble of contest, by setting fire to the numerous craft within their

harbours, being satisfied of the uselessness of resistance against a power so formidable, and so universally successful.

Before the breaking up of the detachment, the commandant of the expedition, lieutenant-colonel *Smith*, expressed his public thanks to the troops who had served under him with so much advantage to their country, and such honour to themselves, in which he panegyrises, as happily as justly, their late display of humanity, in equally glowing and gratifying terms with their general discipline and valor. The several governments of Bengal and Bombay afterwards re-echo, in general orders,* these the particular and well-earned praises of the immediate commandant, and lament the loss, which his majesty's arms had experienced, during this arduous and difficult enterprise, in the individual services of captain Dansey, of his majesty's 65th, and lieutenant Weld, of the 47th regiments.

These are the only transactions, partaking of a military character, that range themselves within the compass of our immediate enquiry, as affecting the Peninsula: but these are neither of importance enough in themselves, nor of interest in relation to others, so as to demand any particular observation. They leave, at their conclusion, the same boundaries to, and the same ties and obligations on our Indian empire, as existed at the commencement of them.

The political events, in the like period, though not numerous, nor immediately striking, may yet be productive in their tendency of important consequences. It is in the nature of these contradistinguished from military operations, to work silently and imperceptibly to their ends. Little, indeed, is ever known of Indian, or, perhaps, of any other diplomacy, but what is discoverable in its effects.

The most remarkable transactions that present themselves under this head, are the different embassies that appear to have been appointed and concluded within the space of a few successive months.

Without any clue to guide us to the special political reasons that governed the appointments in question, we have to notice three several and distinct missions to Persia, and the determination of two of them, without any great public consequence, or any observable result, except as it privately relates to the respectable individuals who were severally at the head of them.

The first of these was conducted by Sir *Harford Jones*, as the representative of the crown, which had in contemplation the establishment of a closer and more regular intercourse than had previously subsisted between the Courts of St. James's and Ispahân, and which seems to have been promoted generally, with a view of completing the destruction of the French influence, which was supposed to have had an ascendancy for some time in the politics of the latter court; the road to which had been cleared by a prior embassy from India. So much had been effected towards the end of Sir Harford Jones's mission by the latter embassy, or in producing a disposition in the Persian court, favorable to the entertainment or reception of it, that an accredited minister had been sent from Persia, with corresponding views and powers, and who was actually prosecuting them, with suitable energy in London, while the British minister was urging the same objects at Ispahân. With these mutual inclinations and designs, it could not, it should seem, require either time or address, to bring the different commissions to a happy termination. During a few months residence at the Persian court, Sir *H. Jones* achieved, as we perceive by a public testimony of the gentlemen attached to his mission, all the measures submitted to his charge, having executed them, as we are told on the same authority, with signal success.†

The minister plenipotentiary of his

* Vide Bombay Occurrences, page 127-8.

† Vide Letters, p. 131.

Majesty, was joined by an envoy of the hon. East India Company, in the person of brigadier-general *Malcolm*, who had before filled several diplomatic offices, and among others, the same distinguished situation, with which he was now honored a second time. He was therefore the fittest personage that could have been named for concluding the arrangements, the foundations of which he had most happily laid.

If the splendour of representation, or of appointment, be not so striking in the instance of this officer, as of his immediate colleague; his acknowledged personal claims and talents may more than counterpoise the want of distinction and honor in the source from which his authorities originate. As to the individual, who is employed in the promotion of the service or glory of his country, he cannot be supposed to be in any material degree affected in the prosecution of his employment, by any sense or sentiment of inferiority in rank, so that his powers be not thereby diminished or embarrassed in the execution of it. But it may admit of some question, as a matter of policy, whether the circumstance may not induce some impediments in the parties, with whom he has to negotiate: it may be also worth consideration, how far it may be prudent to employ different descriptions of political agents, for conducting the public relations of the same country,—when such agents appear to be acting in the strange character of representing distinct and seemingly discordant interests, or such as cannot well be reconciled to the ordinary notions of governments, which admit not, in their constitution, of similar establishments and practices. In the direct communion hitherto of British India with the contiguous foreign states, the medium of communication has been generally the East India Company, a course that has been productive of more unity of action, than is in future to be expected from a mixed agency. Besides the jealousies that may possibly arise hereafter between the national and the company's representatives, in moving and securing their individual objects, if not their separate interests; we may chance to see in the further prosecution of this complex course of diplomacy, the want of respect in the Asiatic courts for the local power of the company, that may be transferred, or affected to be transferred, as convenience may serve, to the distant and controuling state, which may be approached and wearied in every intervenient difficulty, not only as the mediatrix, but as a sort of appellate power, over the nominally local sovereigns. The confusion, that such a system is calculated to create, requires only to be mentioned.—But to return to general *Malcolm*.

This gentleman left Bombay, in his progress to the Persian capital, early in the month of January, 1810, and arrived without any memorable circumstance, at the place of his mission. But two gentlemen of his suite, capt. *Grant*, and cornet *Fotheringham*, who pursued a different route, experienced a melancholy event on the way, which if it had not been capable of a clear and satisfactory explanation, might have greatly impeded the end of the embassy.

These gentlemen quitted the general, it seems, at Bagdad, in the month of March, with the intent of travelling to the Persian capital, by the route of the *Beni Sam* country, and over the chain of mountains, forming its natural barrier. They were accompanied by a guide, who undertook to direct them on their way, and who conducted them with seeming fidelity, for two or three days journey, until they came to the village of *Mundalike*, where he is said to have betrayed them to *Kulb Ali Khan*, a freebooter, belonging to a Persian tribe, that had for years infested the Turkish frontier. This unfeeling marauder, under the shew of civility, came up to the travellers at the village just named, and invited the unfortunate officers to his camp, whither they unsuspectingly accompanied him, but which they had scarcely entered, when the Khan's followers treacherously levelled a shot at capt

Grant, which inflicted a mortal wound. Mr. *Fotheringham* and the rest of the party were then instantly seized, and being bound together, were, after the most insulting and barbarous usage, shot one by one, by the Khan's own hand, in unsparing, unrelenting, and unprovoked cruelty.* All knowledge of this foul and disgraceful act, was not only disowned by the Persian court, but every practicable means were employed by it, for insuring the punishment of the atrocious perpetrator of it.

The motive to the mission of general *Malcolm*, would appear to have been temporary and special, from his very limited residence at the Persian court; for we observe him quitting the kingdom, and apparently in due course, at the end of the month of July, although invited most cordially by the king and the prince, to prolong his visit, and to receive the chief command of the Persian army in its campaign against the Russians. But this invitation, so flattering in its circumstances, and more especially to a military mind, the general did not consider himself at liberty to accept. The Persian monarch, did not, however, suffer him to depart, so favourable the impression of his demeanour during this and the preceding embassy, without conferring on him a distinction new and honourable in itself, and most grateful in the manner of conferring it. The king created for the purpose, a new order of knighthood, the insignia of which is an irradiated star, bearing, within the centre, a representation of the lion and the sun; which new badge of distinction his Majesty presented with his own hand, with the strongest expressions of favor and regard, and accompanied with a firman, appointing him an hereditary Khan, or noble of the empire. Though these honors, so offered, and accepted, may in a great measure have been promoted by the personal merits of the general; yet they cannot be contemplated, when acquired, without reflecting a certain part of their splendour on the nation, to which the individual belongs, and this would be the more felt, as the occurrence should be the more singular and marked. During the momentary favour of the French, in their late extraordinary applications and pursuits at the Persian court, it would seem, that they had not, with all the arts and means of diplomacy, for which they are so generally gifted and famous, and with which they were so extravagantly furnished on this particular occasion, the good fortune to maintain the same outward forms of respect, or to acquire any private marks of distinction or honour.

This difference of estimation, from whatsoever reason it might flow, whether from the peculiar policy dictated to the mission, or from the merits of the personal conduct of the negotiators themselves, is the principal result from the embassies which we have noticed.

General *Malcolm* had scarcely quitted the Persian confines, before a third ambassador, Sir. *G. Ousely*, was pressing towards them, armed with all the authority of a royal commission, and all the pomp and show of a minister plenipotentiary.

Sir *Gore* arrived at Bombay in the Lion man of war, which had been equipped for the occasion, in the month of January, 1811, accompanied by *Mirza Abul Hassan*, the late ambassador from the court of Persia, to whom allusion has been before made. These illustrious strangers were received and entertained with the customary honors, and after having experienced the refreshments and hospitalities of the island, again embarked on his Majesty's ship, in the beginning of February, and proceeded to their destination.

The appointment of Sir *G. Ouseley*, in succession to, or more properly speaking, in supercession of Sir *H. Jones*, would seem to indicate the intention of the British government to

* For the particulars of this wanton murder, see Bombay Occurrences, at p. 135.

keep a permanent ambassador at the Persian court, or at least to retain a public functionary in that kingdom, so long as the views of the French may be directed to it, as the means of introducing their armies to the east. But if this were the policy of our ministers, there is no apparent need that the envoy should be commissioned by the crown; since his communications respecting the proceedings of the court to which he is sent, might as well be made, and perhaps more conveniently, by a minister of the East India company: and the change in the quality of the agency, may be productive, as already explained, of some misunderstanding and inconvenience. Be this as it may, the very pains that have been so eminently discoverable in the different measures pursued for the conciliation of the Persian court, can hardly have failed to raise in it some new idea of its importance; which it may not be very wise, in the first instance, to excite, or convenient, ultimately, to favor.

Or, perhaps, however flattered by the attentions, which have been enumerated, it may possibly impute them, if not to its own consequence, to our own seemingly admitted want of it, in that quarter of the world; an impression that might be the more natural, from the view of the repeated embassies to another power in the neighbourhood, which our Indian statesmen have been soliciting, and conciliating scarcely with a less degree of perseverance, than exhibited towards the Persian court itself. Our readers will perceive that we have under our contemplation the different missions to *Cabul*—the abrupt issue of the latter of which it is now the place to notice.

The intestine commotions that had for some time shaken that unhappy kingdom, and disturbed all its relations with other states, were mentioned in our last volume; and from the latest accounts received from that country, do not appear to have since abated, or taken such a turn, as to encourage foreign governments in forming fresh, or continuing the former alliances with it. The deposed sovereign *Shuja ul Mulk*, after having made one or two ineffectual struggles for regaining his lost dignity, has been wandering from place to place, without any fixed residence, in the frontier states; waiting a precarious opening, which has not yet occurred, for the recovery of his throne. He seems not to have energy of character sufficient for the restitution of his dignities by force, nor the policy to effect his purpose by more indirect means, by engaging others heartily in the prosecution of his cause; but has contented himself with rearing, but ever shifting, a standard of invitation to the royalists, who have as yet thronged not to his colours in any numbers, or displayed any uncommon loyalty to the restoration of his forlorn affairs. This deserted state of the sovereign, inferring not any great personal reverence in his subjects, nor any probability of successful exertions in his avor, must be supposed to confirm, day by day, the power of the usurper. This, however, was not yet so stable, as to permit, if such an intention could have been indulged, the proceeding of an embassy to the actual king of *Cabul*, which had originally set out from Calcutta with accredited powers to his rightful predecessor. The gentlemen, charged with the mission, passively submitting, like the dethroned sovereign, and leaving matters to chance, rather than exertion, or irresolute as to the party whose pretensions they should favor, waited at a distant post on the frontiers, for several months, in expectation of the coming of better days, or the tardy resolves of their superiors, and were at length recalled within the company's provinces, by an order of the supreme government; leaving the late unfortunate ally to his fate, and his daring and unprincipled successor to the uninterrupted enjoyment of his fortune. How far this wavering and suspicious proceeding may operate towards forwarding our interests or alliances, there would seem no necessity for enquiring.

Such were the direct efforts of the European and Indian governments, for sustaining and securing the tranquillity of our Asiatic possessions, and of insur-

ing the happiness of their inhabitants, through the enviable medium of peace. But the measures of the Indian governments, operative to the same great end, do not seem to have been bounded by these diplomatic efforts. At every one of the presidencies, an attempt has been made, as the public occurrences denote, and which we have peculiar pleasure in remarking, to favor and encourage peaceful and useful arts.

Bengal, which takes the lead, not in courtesy of station, or rank, but in activity of zeal on every occasion of improvement, exhibits in the present year the same energy that she has shewn in preceding seasons, towards the advancement of science and knowledge, whence spring the first blessings of good government, and all the derivative comforts and conveniences of life.

It is impossible to read the visitorial address of *Lord Minto* from the chair of the college of Calcutta, without delight and pride—without the most animated pleasure at the information it conveys of the enlargement of the field of what we know of the surrounding people, and of the aid which it consequently affords for contributing to their happiness and welfare, nor without the most rational vanity, not from the employment only of the rising talent of the state in pursuits so laudable, but in the successful application of, and the mastery of such talent in provinces of literature, where the foot of the learned had hitherto feared to tread. Nor is it possible to witness this triumph, without admiring the honest arts of the noble personage in the chair, in drawing forth the energy of youthful genius—of stimulating it, in its lurking-place, or in reproving, (the least grateful, but perhaps the most necessary task) the indolence or sullenness that may chance to depress its aspiring, or warp its natural course. And not less is our admiration excited by this, than any former display of eloquence, seemingly inexhaustible in its store, with which the monitions of the chair are so happily enforced, acting in the two-fold quality of precept and example, as the moral lesson, and the excellence which it inculcates, and holds up to imitation.

The college, under the happy auspices of the noble visitor, has produced within a few months, what in the unpatronized time of Asiatic learning, would have been the labour of a succession of years. In a very limited space, many most useful and interesting works have been published, in several branches of science, as well as of general literature, (which it would be superfluous to enumerate,*) in almost every living tongue of the nations that communicate with India, and in languages that have long ceased to be in use, and in which had been locked up, (the treasures of which are now thrown open,) the wisdom of ages.

There is no desideratum in eastern literature, but that might be henceforth gratified by the continuation of the same efforts to the same ends. And are they not to be continued? There is, alas! a suggestion, a sort of melancholy presage in the address of Lord Minto, that would seem to throw a sort of chill on the anticipation of the success of future years, from a dread, that a part of the patronage which seems to have led to it, may, in an evil hour, be withdrawn, or transferred to another and distant seat of learning; where its influence would be partial, and its effects of limited and doubtful good.

To check with a profane touch this seemingly hallowed institution, which may atone, in its effects, for even greater errors than are imputed to the early conquerors of India, would be a kind of sacrilege, that should shame any other days than those of darkness and barbarism. There might have been in the first establishment of the college, something, perhaps, of seeming profusion in the endowment, a munificence, however, which we are not disposed to question, that might

* Vide the address of lord *Minto*, in the Miscellany of this volume, to which the reader is referred, who has any fondness for Asiatic learning, or for the purity of English style, improved by classical taste. From this he will also learn the advance of the college in the sciences which it professes to cultivate and protect.

not have been properly appreciated by the immediate directors of the company's affairs, and therefore not eventually approved. But the establishment has been since reduced to the scale of their own more limited notions, or supposed resources, and which may have tended to the lateness of the harvest, but a productive harvest, which is now reaping. Let them not meditate on hewing down the tree, at the season, when it is just producing fruit, or attempt to transplant it to a soil and climate uncongenial to its nature, and unfavorable to its growth: where the success of the experiment, however complete, cannot increase the produce, and where the failure of it would destroy the stock. It would be lamentable, indeed, that all the beneficent care and attention of the first; and the zealous co-operative and protective services of the second founder, should be then defeated, when their labours were overcoming in the ripened result of their application, the original difficulties of the project, and the prejudices that opposed its progress.

In the pursuit of these the remote objects of public benefit, the governor-general did not overlook advantages capable of immediate realization. He found leisure amidst the hurry and bustle of war, not only to tread the quiet walk of literature, but to restore, if not to introduce, plenty to the plains, and enlivening commerce to the towns of an extensive province, by opening the sources of a canal celebrated in history, (the *Nehur Beheisht*) which had been closed for more than a century, though it had been wont to scatter fruitfulness over a barren waste, to add to the population along its banks, and to lessen the cares and labours of the societies, to whose numbers it contributed. What must have been the policy, that could have suffered these numerous blessings to sleep for so long a series of years? And what the sentiment of the benevolent mind, that is permitted to restore them to activity and life?

A new establishment was founded at Madras, which, though it looked not to the same grand purposes with the institution immediately mentioned, is yet laudable in its design, as it contemplates a most useful and humane object, in the care and treatment of a noble and generous animal, eminently serviceable to the convenience of man, and employed and associated, as it were, with him, as a principal means, in this country, and almost every where else, of advancing his political interests. This institution, denominated the veterinary establishment, is described as originating in a partial view, and to be directed more particularly to the medical treatment of the horses, attached to the cavalry of the presidency; but, however narrowed its original aspect, it would seem to tend, and we have pleasure in anticipating it, to more large and beneficial effects. Nor will we withhold from the founder of the establishment, the praise which it is eventually calculated to insure, under a suggestion that his views have been confined to the immediate care of the cavalry; since it would seem almost impossible from the very constitution as well as extent of the establishment, that its benefits will be restrained within a limited circle, or prevented from spreading all around. The foundation consists of forty-eight youths, to be instructed by a regular surgeon, in the anatomy of the horse, the accidents and diseases to which he is liable, and their proper cures. This, like every other military department, has been prudently put under the control and patronage of the commander-in-chief. This is the first attempt, we believe, at the introduction of the knowledge of the medical treatment of animals into India, and we sincerely hope that it may be pursued with the same zeal and success, that has attended similar institutions, humanely established of late years in the mother country, and most liberally and honorably encouraged.

The late improvements of Bombay which we are now about to notice, are not of an experimental, but of a positive character, and of a higher order than those of the latter presidency. The island has always been

remarkable for the cultivation and advancement of the art of ship-building, under the exertion of a peculiar race of men, to whom it was not to be imagined, in the ordinary course of things, that a maritime state, excelling in naval architecture, should look for extrinsic aid, or from whom it should effectually derive it. But for a long series of years, this curious art has been left solely in the hands of certain families of the Parsees, who have been engaged in the public works of the Indian government, as well as in the private service of the community. So skilful has been the construction of vessels of various burthen, under the superintendance of these ingenious and enterprising men, that it had been for some time wished, that the same genius might be extended to services of national importance, to the building of ships of war of the larger class. But this desire could not be realised without artificial means of forcing some facilities to the art, which had been but scantily supplied in natural scite and position, and which could not be mastered by science within the grasp of the mind of these otherwise enlightened natives. It demanded the superior intellect or attainment of the European, to give the last requisite to the *Parsee*, for launching on the bosom of the ocean, the proudest wonder of art, a well-built ship of the line. Docks, suited to this great purpose, were recommended several years ago, by admiral *Ranier*, and were begun, under the patronage of the Bombay government, we believe, in the year 1808. Some accident or defect in the original plan, or the method of executing it, had nearly defeated the intent of those who had designed this public benefit; for after considerable masses of brick and mortar had been piled together at very great expense, the whole suddenly gave way, and were in an instant levelled with the ground. The failure was ascribed, at first, to the moisture and looseness of the soil, which were supposed to forbid the execution of the great and useful work in contemplation; but this, on a more mature, and more reasoned examination, did not deter a bolder, and eventually a more fortunate genius, for re-commencing the fallen and half-abandoned enterprise. These public works were a second time attempted on the same spot, and on the same grand scale, by Mr. *Cowper*, a military gentleman of the corps of engineers, who, by his own unaided resources, and by a vigour of industry as well as mind, has overcome and restrained opposing and resisting elements, and has raised a monument of successful art, that may have been rivalled, but never yet exceeded. The docks constructed by this gentleman, are capable of admitting a first-rate ship, and have left nothing to be coveted for carrying the art of ship-building to any known extent.

While this stupendous work was in prosecution, such was the confidence felt in the science and skill of the engineer, that a 74 gun ship was laid down in the area of one of the docks, as it was building, and actually proceeded step by step with the progress of the work. The settlement, in the mean time, had to witness, with divided admiration, the course of the rival efforts of congenial and relative arts, speeding together to their perfection, and being ready at the same time, to start into usefulness. The docks were completed in June, 1810, and on the 23d of that month, the *Minden*, the name of the 74, was floated into the stream at high water, under the care of its celebrated builder, *Jemsetjee Bomangee*, the company's naval architect of the port, who has the singular merit of giving the first ship of the line to the British navy, constructed out of the limits of the mother country. It would seem superfluous to enumerate the advantages that may ensue from these increased naval means, which a crowd of local circumstances have a tendency to improve in so many obvious ways.

From the admitted superiority of the *Teak*, for the wear and tear of the Indian seas, it may reasonably be expected, that the time is not very distant, when the vessels of war employed here may be constructed of

that timber, which every where abounds, and in inexhaustible plenty. This would be, if prejudice do not oppose its occurrence, a most desirable event, as the expense of the repair of his Majesty's ships, for many years back, has been equal in yearly amount to the construction and equipment of several ships of the line, though the ships which have undergone such repairs, have been afterwards little fitted for service. For the teak, though the most durable of all timber by itself, is most unsuitable in mixture with other woods, its closeness and solidity generally fretting and wearing out whatever comes in contact with it. The strength of the timber has been ascertained by the durability of the vessels built with it; some of which have been in employment for the greater part of a century, the oily inherent quality of the wood particularly fitting it for the use to which it is applied: this feeds and preserves the bolts and iron work, while the acidity in the oak is known, in an equal degree, to corrode and destroy them. The durability of these vessels affords also a collateral proof of the ability, if any were wanting, of the persons employed in the construction of them. With these concurring favourable circumstances, assisted by the testimony of several eminent naval personages, of the quality and character of the ships, it would not seem an extravagant anticipation, that we shall one day observe a fleet, capable of the protection of the Indian ocean, issuing from an Asiatic port. Such an event alone would make the civil history of the present year more distinguishable than any recorded in the annals of the East.

CHAPTER IV.

Proceedings of the court of directors in the consideration of late transactions at Madras —enquiry into the conduct of officers suspended by the order of the 1st of May, superceded by the investigation of the case of Mr. Petrie, from the necessity of the appointment of Sir Samuel Achmuty to a seat in council—discussions as to the member to be removed—letter from Mr. Dundas proposing Mr. Petrie's removal, and suggesting the reasons for the proposed act—debates and ballots ensue—ending in the removal of the last-mentioned gentleman—dissent of six directors—replication of the chairman and deputy—Mr. Petrie appointed to a respectable office out of council—resumption of the cases of the suspended officers—1st resolutions thereon—proceedings and ballots on the case of lieut.-col. Boles—his conditional restoration to the service—progress and result of the proceedings on the other cases—general observations on the foregoing proceedings—resolution of the court of directors for restoring certain writers and cadets, whose nominations had been obtained by an abuse of influence—petition of the East India company to Parliament for pecuniary relief—prayer granted—appointment of a select committee of the House of Commons to enquire into the company's finances—their several reports—motions in Parliament for papers relative to Macao, and the disturbances at Madras—notice of an intended motion by Mr. Creevy for the recal of Sir. G. Barlow—motion of Sir Henry Montgomery respecting the rank of the company's officers—conclusion.

The proceedings of the Indian government at home, the acts of the court of directors, and the board of controul, demand, in natural order, our next and separate notice. These are numerous, and important; and render-

ed peculiarly interesting not only by the extraordinary objects involved in them, but by the manner in which they have been considered. The community know little of the motives or policy of the court of directors in general, except as they are to be inferred from their public acts; but, on the present occasion, the whole process of the mind of that hitherto occult body is laid open, from the first conception, through all the intermediate stages of self deliberation and aggregate debate, to the final result and judgment. The curtain of the council chamber has been drawn up, and for once the public have been admitted, we will not say how prudently for the court of directors, or how safely for themselves, to a view of the immediate governors of our eastern possessions, in the secrecy of their interior consultations, and in the most interesting act of forming and expressing their opinion on circumstances, that had plunged a large portion of their Indian territory into difficulties, from which it is not even at this day entirely disembarrassed.

These difficulties were created, as the reader will recollect, by the insubordination of the Madras army; and the disturbed state of civil society, by the supposed impolitic measures of Sir George Barlow, which were considered somewhat minutely in the last volume of the Register, and which presented themselves now, not so much in their own naked merits, as in their application to individuals, to the approbation or condemnation of the controuling authorities in this country.

As we have already expressed ourselves without reserve on most of the transactions, that are now about to pass under the review of the court of directors, we would wish to abstract our minds, as much as may be, from the former opinions delivered by us, in order that we may take a more dispassionate view of the impressions made by the same transactions on the official organs described.

The earliest measure, which pressed itself on the notice of the court of directors, was Sir George Barlow's order, or rather the effect of it, of the 1st of May, suspending, without any formal enquiry, several officers of rank from the service of the East India company.

The cases of the officers, implicated, were brought summarily forward at the end of the year 1809, but from accidental circumstances, which will be mentioned hereafter, were superceded in the consideration of the court, by a graver subject, which underwent a serious and thorough enquiry, and was finally determined on before the previous deliberation was resumed. The new subject of discussion was the conduct of Mr. *Petrie*, the second member of the government; who had held a distinct policy from the governor during the memorable events of the preceding year: so that the decision, here, could not fail in consequence to mark the sentiments of the court of directors on the conduct of his official opponent. We need not therefore, after our immediate explanation, apologise for giving this the foremost place in our notice, or for being more minute in our observations upon it, than on the general cases, which we may be disposed to consider.

Of Mr. Petrie we may be allowed to say, notwithstanding our already professed abstraction from prepossessions, that he was hitherto no less distinguished for his rectitude and amiability, than for his experience and intelligence in Indian affairs, and his general services to the East India company.

The case and conduct of Mr. Petrie came before the court of directors under a recommendation from the board of controul. The origin and motive of that recommendation was an emergency arising from the immediate departure of lieut.-general Sir Samuel Auchmuty for Madras, with the appointment of commander-in-chief of that presidency, coupled with a seat in council next to the governor himself, and from which his immediate predecessor in office, general Macdowall, had been pointedly excluded, in the inexplicable policy of the court of directors.

In order to make way for this ap-

pointment of Sir Samuel Auchmuty, it was necessary to remove one member of the former council. Hence a question arose, which of the members should be sacrificed ?

Mr. Dundas, now Lord Melville, president of the board of controul, in calling the attention of the directors to the subject, and pressing them to a decision in an official letter, did not hesitate to tell them, that Mr. *Petrie*, having dissented from Sir *George Barlow* in many of the most important and decisive measures adopted in the recent critical emergencies, seemed to be marked as the person on whom the exclusion should fall, with a view to to the establishment of an union, which was so much to be desired, in the Madras government. Two documents received from India, not in the regular channel of conveyance from the company's government, but delivered by a private hand to the president of the board of controul, were inclosed in this letter; these purported to be a minute, prepared by Sir George Barlow in explanation and defence of his own measures, and in crimination of Mr. Petrie; and a minute of the latter gentleman in his own vindication. Though these papers were undoubtedly authentic, there was some awkwardness in considering them as official, from the manner in which they came before the court. It was moreover understood that they were sent to England, by Sir George Barlow, in a clandestine course, by the hands of his secretary, then recently arrived from India, for the purpose, as it was afterterwards contended, of prepossessing the board of controul in Sir George's favour, and making an impression, through the authority of that board, upon the court of directors, adverse to Mr. Petrie, of whose removal Sir George in this way was the first instigator.

Under these circumstances, the formation of a new council for Madras came to be deliberated and decided upon, at the East India house, on Tuesday, the 6th of April, 1810, when a motion was made, that a new commission should be issued for the government of Fort St. George, and that the following persons appointed be members of that government, viz. Sir George Hilaro Barlow, Bart. K. B. governor, lieut.-general Sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and second in council. ; Thomas Oakes, Esq. third ; and James Henry Cassamajor, Esq. fourth in council. Upon this motion, which went directly to the exclusion of Mr. *Petrie*, an amendment was moved, placing that gentleman's name next in order after Sir Samuel Auchmuty, with that of Mr. Oakes as fourth member of the council, leaving out Mr. Cassamajor, the youngest member of the former council.

After two divisions, on different forms of the question, in which the number of votes appeared by the ballot to be equal, the original motion was negatived by calling in the treasurer; who, according to the instructions given in the company's charter, drew the lot which was to determine in such an equality, and that lot was against the passing of the motion. Upon this, the chairman, Mr. Astell, gave notice that he would submit the same motion again on the Tuesday following; which, on being made, a similar amendment was moved, as in the first instance, with the addition that, on the coming away, death, or resignation of Sir George Barlow, Mr. Petrie should succeed him in the government. The result of the proceedings of this day, was the passing of the original motion, and the consequent removal of Mr. Petrie from the seat in council.

The first point worthy of notice in this decision, is the facility with which it was carried, after so even a division of the court in two several ballots on the preceding day of consideration. It will be found in the documents upon the subject, comprehended in our state papers, that this matter is explained, though rather in a curious way, by some dinner conversation with colonel Taylor; who said, he would have voted for Mr. Petrie's removal, if a question put by him to the chair had been answered, and by some other proceedings out of court, as well as by a supposed mistake in taking the ballot, from some of

the directors putting their balls into a different box from that which they intended. This latter part of the explanation is not easily reconcileable; for there were two divisions in which the numbers were equal, and although a mistake might have happened once, it could not easily have occurred twice in immediate succession. But here it may be observed, that the idea of putting any question to the ballot, in so small an assembly, is at best of doubtful wisdom. The object of ballot is in general to enable the voters to give a free vote in secrecy and security, but when a small body of men debate and discuss, and every man's sentiments are known to his fellow members, to ballot is only to create embarrassment and confusion. We may avail ourselves of the same opportunity to call in question the good sense of the provision for recurring to the lot, which the treasurer is enjoined to draw, in cases of an equality of voices; a provision, the absurdity and perverseness of which is shewn, in this very case of Mr Petrie, the drawing of two lots of opposite and, therefore, nugatory effect, on the very first day of the deliberations.

The object was not, however, ultimately effected, without an opposition, the strength and firmness of which was manifested and felt after the question had been carried. Six most respectable directors* immediately entered a protest, stating their dissent from the decision of the court, and the reasons upon which that dissent was founded. This protest, and the reasons recited in it, were considered by the majority, and in particular by the leading members, the chairman and deputy, in so serious a light, that they took the unusual course of replying to it in a formal minute.

Here we feel ourselves called upon to notice, and point out a singularity which distinguishes the proceedings of the court of directors, on the Madras questions, from those of every other deliberative body. It is generally understood, that where protests are entered against any decision, the indulgence is permitted to the minority, for the purpose of recording their reasons as an appeal to succeeding judgments, and with a view to the justification of the dissentients. But the majority having presumptive right on its side, has no occasion for any other record than its vote; and, therefore, we scarcely know of any instance of written and recorded replication to such protests, prior to these extraordinary proceedings at the India House. If the practice should grow into a precedent, it must multiply discussions without end; and as the directors of the East India company, and all their officers, are the very reverse from being brief upon paper, we may have to look for an accumulation of manuscript debates, sufficient to make reading and writing upon the daily subjects of their controversies, the whole occupation of these managers of the company's business and trustees of its interests.

It is not our intention here to go into a review, or even an enumeration of the reasons adduced on both sides, in the documents connected with the case of Mr Petrie, and the other cases that followed. These papers will be found at large in the collection of state papers given in this volume; and they will present as remarkable a conflict as ever was exhibited in contentious debate, of arguments arising afresh on each side, in proportion as they have been met and beaten down. A great deal of warmth, not unmixed with acrimony, is observable in every one of the parties; and it must be admitted, that decorum is very often infringed in the energy with which they maintain their respective tenets. It would have been well if it had occurred to the majority, to compare what passed in their own council with the spirit of the parties in the minor body, the government of Madras; for, surely, Mr. Petrie's demeanour, and sentiments and language, respecting the acts of Sir George Barlow, and of the majority that supported him, never

* Sir Francis Baring, Bart. Sir Hugh Inglis, Bart. and Messrs. Huddleston, Elphinstone, Pattison, and Bannerman.

were so hostile or so disrespectful as those of the minority of the court of directors, upon the case to which we have recently adverted, towards the majority of that body, with the chairman and deputy at their head. If unanimity was desirable in the government of Madras, it was no less so, it should seem, in the controuling and appellate assembly in Leadenhall-street; and if a strong opposition in principle and sentiment upon each of the prominent points in the cases that came to be reviewed, was a cause for expelling the dissentient in one case, it might equally be so in the other. It does not appear, however, that the majority of the court of directors, ever thought of this analogy in the state of their own body, even when they were applying their censure most unrelentingly to Mr. Petrie, and the divisions in the government of Madras.

But it appears, for it is pleaded as a part of the justification of the act, that it was not originally the intention of the majority of the court of directors to remove Mr. Petrie from the council of Madras. It was first their intention to have simply notified, that Sir Samuel Achmuty was to be second member of council; the result of which notification would be to put Mr. Petrie down to the third place, and Mr. Oakes to the fourth, and Mr. Cassamajor, the youngest member, would be removed from the council altogether. This it seems was a sort of recognized practice in similar cases. But Mr. Petrie's friends would not, it is said, admit of this tacit and indirect retention of that gentleman's seat in the council. They insisted on a direct recognition of his being still a member of the Madras government; and this the majority of the court considered a sufficient ground and provocation for proceeding to his immediate and total exclusion.

We fear that those who come in future times to reconsider with the light of history, this conduct of the revisionary government of British India, will not think this enhancement of rigour, arising from a little opposition in debate and council, a most creditable characteristic in the majority by which Mr. Petrie was removed. And, indeed, this is but one of many traits of resemblance and congeniality which we find in the mind and temper of that majority, and in those of the government of Madras, which it supported. A dictatorial spirit is eminently distinguishable in both; a spirit not to be mitigated by the reasoning, but to be confirmed by the resistance, and inflamed by the opposition of the most respectable dissentients. The authorities referred to, and quoted in the minutes of the majority, or rather of the chairman and deputy, to whose pleadings the others appear to have been merely subscribers, are all of a description which mark an inclination to overbearing power, impatient of restraint and remonstrance. The great Lord Clive is frequently brought to view, and his maxims and proceedings adduced in confirmation of Sir George Barlow's acts, and in justification of the conduct of the majority of the court of directors in supporting him, without any appearance of recollecting, that they are precisely the maxims and principles inculcated by the great Machiavel, and even acted on by Buonaparte for the attainment and maintenance of absolute power.

The principal grounds of accusation against Mr. Petrie were, that he had received, countenanced, and favoured persons obnoxious to the government; he had refused to sign an address of approbation and attachment to Sir George Barlow in the moment when the late unhappy differences between the government of Madras, and the officers of the army of that presidency, were at their height.

The answer of Mr. Petrie to these charges, severally, is, that knowing the parties whom he is charged with, having received, and having been in the habit of entertaining, he could not discontinue to do so, notwithstanding the heavy accusation against them, consistently with that first maxim of British justice, that every man must be presumed to be innocent till he should be found guilty; and with respect to his refusal to sign the address of approbation and support to Sir George

Barlow and his measures, he says* plainly, that he thought it wrong to affix his signature to such a paper, disapproving as he did of Sir George Barlow's policy in many instances; although he did afterwards offer to sign it, if any great benefit was likely to be derived from his signature, or any mischief was to be apprehended from the omission of his name to the list of subscribers. To these reasons the very large and respectable minority, that we have cited, subscribed; adding, besides, their most decided approbation of the temper and moderation of Mr. Petrie's letters: urging and insisting at the same time, upon the obligations imposed on him by acts of parliament, and by instructions from the court, to dissent from the governor where he should see reason to do so, and to record the reasons of his dissent; impressing also the danger of discouraging such a practice, without which a governor would have a council but in name, while he would be in reality, a governor without council, and without controul.

We are not disposed here, nor do we think it right, to enter into any strict revision or balance of the facts and reasonings on both sides. The details are before our readers, they are well worthy of attention, and every one will decide on them according to the impression they shall make upon him.

But it is proper to observe here, that even the majority of the directors, who sought and accomplished Mr. Petrie's removal, never thought of making that gentleman the object of any punishment or degradation, although his conduct, if it was to be considered as criminal as Sir George Barlow represented it, or even as their own arguments would seem to shew them to have considered it, would have been guilty and deserving of punishment in the highest degree; on the contrary, Mr. Petrie was honoured and rewarded with the highest consideration and emoluments that he could hold out of council, and he has since been appointed to a government of some importance.

The wanton and unfeeling manner in which the removal was carried into effect, which is particularised, and commented on by Mr. Petrie, in the Madras occurrences,* is not imputable to the court of directors, but in apparent violation of their intention.

The complaint made against Mr. Petrie, that he had not excluded from his house certain individuals under the displeasure of the government is a matter that deserves most serious consideration. The total exclusion of any individual from the society of private houses in settlements which afforded no relief in public society, (such as we have in Europe in coffee-houses, clubs, and taverns,) nor in the resources that places of public entertainment supply, is an infliction of the most aggravated nature. The punishment of solitary confinement is admitted to be so cruel, that even the most rigid justice will hardly be admitted to reconcile it to the merciful feelings of refined philosophy: but to inflict arbitrarily the disgraceful penalty of condemnation of solitude in the midst of a society, rendered hitherto most dear and valuable by the confidence of mutual and merited esteem and affection, is a torture infinitely more severe; and therefore we should think not to be inflicted primarily by any government, but to be left to the judgment of every person of whatsoever rank, who is a member of that society, to be exercised according to his own impression of the conduct and character of the individual arraigned. This freedom of conduct, in respect to the hospitality of private houses, and the regulation of personal intercourse, would seem the more indispensable in cases such as some of those that occurred at Madras, where the individual arraigned was precluded, and even in more than one instance prohibited, from the means of removing himself immediately from the scene of his censure, to present himself as quickly as the desire and confidence of final acquittal prompted, before the tribunal of appeal.

We would wish to conclude, with this general observation, what we have to say on this, the only civil subject

* Vide Madras Occurrences, Page 109-10.

that has been as yet discussed by the court of directors, and pass to the military cases.

The first mention of these is made in a* minute of the court, of so early a date as the 4th of December, 1809: from which it appears, that after reading three or four official papers, forwarded by the Madras government, and a letter of the court of directors, written some months before, motions to the following effect were made and passed by ballot into formal resolutions. 1st, "That the offences committed by the officers in question were of the most dangerous and criminal nature, subversive of all legitimate authority, and ought always to receive the severest punishment the court of directors can inflict; since lenity in such a case to individuals would prove most detrimental and pernicious to the general interests of the army, the Indian governments, and the nation. 2nd, That the measures adopted by the government of Fort St. George, with respect to those officers, were, in the circumstances in which that government was placed, proper and necessary. 3rd, That it was proper to proceed to the act of dismission, and that, agreeable to the standing rules of the service, which require notice of a motion of a dismission, the court should on a future day proceed to the act; namely, the dismission of lieutenant colonel St. Leger, major de Morgan, captain Marshal, captain Grant, and lieutenant-colonel Martin. These resolutions did not, however, pass without great opposition, and dissents were recorded against them by Messrs Huddleston and Pattison, principally upon the ground that it would be contrary to the principles of justice, to proceed to condemn and punish, without first giving the parties under judgment an opportunity of defending themselves. A similar protest was entered by Mr. Bannerman, which entered more particularly into the circumstances of the questions at issue between the government of Madras and the officers implicated, adducing several circumstances and arguments to extenuate the offensive part of the conduct of those officers, and stating doubts of the propriety and policy of the abrupt and arbitrary measures adopted with respect to them.

At a subsequent general court, held on the 4th of April, 1810, Mr. Pattison, pursuant to notice, made a motion, adverting to and inforcing the conciliatory spirit and the profession of amnesty contained in the general orders issued by lord Minto, on the 25th of September, 1809, with a view to get rid of the foregoing resolutions, without a formal rescindment of them, and concluding with a resolution, for restoring to their rank in the company's service, every class of the suspended officers, comprehending the names of colonel St. Leger, colonel Martin, major de Morgan, captain Grant, colonel Capper, and major Boles. This motion being put to the ballot was negatived, upon which a fresh protest was entered by Messrs. Elphinstone, Pattison, Huddleston, and Bannerman,† going more particularly into the merits of the cases of the several officers distinctly; and severely censuring the intemperate and hasty conduct of the Madras government on many points, and particularly for the rigours it had inflicted without giving the officers a trial, or a hearing. This protest produced a replication‡ from the chairman and deputy, Messrs. Astell and Grant, vindicating the course of proceedings that had been pursued by the Madras government, in regard to the officers, whose conduct was under consideration, and also the proceedings of the court of directors, subsequently, upon the cases of those officers.

The several protests, inserted at length in the proper place, anticipate all that could be said on the injustice of this extraordinary proceeding; and which is rendered only the more flagrant, by an attempt, on the part of those who urged the motion, to fritter away, in a sense of half shame, and half conscience, the plain and obvious intent, and meditated effect of the resolutions

* Vide State Papers, Page 257. † Vide Page 261 to 266. ‡ Vide p. 267 to 271.

of which they led. The last of these, however, denouncing the punishment to the offences already decided on, and which was all, in the common sense of things, that remained now to be done, could not by good fortune, or rather good form, be finally passed in the same court, but was constrained to stand over, on this account solely, to another meeting of the court. In the mean time, however, the protests alluded to were placed on the table of the directors, and not only had the effect of deferring the ultimate adoption of the resolution, but operating with other causes, one among which was the arrival in this country of the accused persons to whom the penalty attached, and who had not been heard either in India or here, opened the whole ground of the discussion, as affecting the cases in question, which had been decided so hastily, and so peremptorily, in the aggregate in the first instance, and induced an examination of them, as we shall hereafter see, separately and anew.

The proceedings at the India house, on the military cases, from this time were suspended, and were not again taken up until the end of the year 1810. The court of directors even then did not resume the enquiry into the conduct of the officers, suspended under the order of the 1st of May, but went into the original case of colonel Boles, who had been removed from his office of deputy adjutant-general, and from his employment in the service, on the single and singular accusation of having signed, and circulated in his official capacity, the orders of the local commander-in-chief. The particulars of this curious case were laid before the reader at great length, in the last volume of this work, and need not be here repeated.

The first impression on the mind of the court of directors, from the circumstances affecting colonel Boles, was expressed in a letter of the 29th September, 1809, to the government of Fort St. George, which shewed that the court, even on the statement of the Madras government, considered that the officer in question had been severely and unjustly treated. It was, therefore, to be expected, that if his conduct, at an after period, should come to be examined with the full matters of his defence before the court, it would meet a most liberal and lenient consideration.

The court entered into this ultimate enquiry, on the 20th of November, 1810, and consumed that, and three other days, namely, the 23d and 28th November, and 5th December following, in reading official papers connected with the case, and proposed the 12th December, on which day the court again assembled, for passing their final judgment thereon.

At this time a motion was made of the following tenure:

"That lieutenant-colonel Thomas Boles, late deputy adjutant-general on the Madras establishment, in the manner of preparing and circulating to the different stations of the army, transcripts of the general order of lieutenant-general Macdowall, dated the 28th January, 1809, and in not only entertaining a public address to him from a combination of officers of the Madras army, written in declared opposition to the authority of the government of Fort St. George, upon principles most manifestly seditious, but in accepting, as he does not deny he did, a pension given to him by officers, on those principles, was guilty of factious disrespect, insubordinatio , and hostility to the government of Fort St. George, as declared in the court's military letter of 29th September, 1809, whereby they did on those grounds suspend him from the service, after having removed, in their letter of the 15th September, 1809, the suspension passed on him by the government of Fort George."

It will be perceived, that the alleged guilt of colonel Boles, as it is to be collected from the motion, had accumulated in a most unexpected and unexampled degree, since the first statement of it, in the charge of Sir G. Barlow. All the new circumstances, and aggravation of the case, were now suggested for the first time; and, it is observable, had no manner of relation

with the only act which had induced the original suspension, and on which alone the judgment of the court of directors was seemingly required.

On this motion the previous question was moved, and produced a debate, that did not terminate on the same day, but occasioned an adjournment to the 14th current, when it was resumed. After it had continued for some hours, the previous question was moved and put to the ballot, when the votes appeared equal.*

The treasurer was then called in and drew the lot, determining the question in the negative.

A motion was then made to adjourn, which was also negatived. The original question was next put; and on taking the ballot, the votes were again found to be equal, and the treasurer, the ready expedient, was resorted to, who drew a lot, deciding the question in the negative. One should have seriously supposed, after the individual had undergone this fiery ordeal, that no other attempt would have been made to fix the criminality imputed by the motion upon him.

But we are concerned to say, that the hopes and fortunes of this officer were put to the hazard of the die, no less than twice at a succeeding court-day, the 8th of January, 1811, when he again most miraculously escaped.†

On the 5th of February, 1811, the court at last came to a determination, to the leading principle of which every liberal and impartial mind must have come by a spontaneous effort at first, and which was declared in the following resolution:

"The court having resumed the consideration of the case of major Boles, and having adverted to the circumstance of the court being equally divided upon the subject of the guilt or innocence of this officer, deem it right to lean to the favourable side of the question, and therefore resolve that his suspension from the service be removed; but, as they consider his conduct in some particulars to be not free from blame, they are of opinion that he should not be permitted to return to India till the pleasure of the court of directors shall be signified to him to this effect."

Is it necessary to comment on proceedings that not only appear to outrage all ordinary notions of justice, but even to confound the singular conceptions of the court of directors themselves? The task so painful and so disgusting is spared to us, from the very ample observations made on these proceedings, by several enlightened members of the court, in their recorded dissents,‡ to which we anxiously refer our readers, and proceed to the notice of ulterior enquiries.

On Tuesday, the 26th March, 1811, the cases, of the officers suspended by the order of the 1st of May, being again brought under consideration, it was resolved by the ballot that major de Morgan was guilty of having signed a very improper and inflammatory address to lord Minto, and that he had also exhibited a spirit deserving of much reprehension in the prosecution of colonel Munro; and in a letter to colonel Cuppage, dated 14th April, 1809; it was also resolved that captain Marshal appeared to the court to be guilty of having prepared copies of the intended factious memorial to lord Minto, and that this fact, which might lead to inferences that he was further concerned in the circumstances relating to that paper, was in itself sufficient to prove him deficient in his duty in concealing the knowledge of the proceeding from the government of Madras. A resolution precisely similar to this, upon captain Marshal's conduct, was passed respecting colonel Martin, and it was resolved that captain Grant had been guilty of a very serious offence against military discipline, and against the authority of the legal government, in signing an address to major Boles, and in the very offensive manner in which he introduced that paper to the notice of government.

After these resolutions had past, a letter was delivered in by Mr. Huddlestone, in which he argues with great ability in extenuation of the conduct of the officers, and complains of,

* Vid. page. 294. † Ibid. ‡ Vid. 297, et infra.

and opposes, the arbitrary nature of the proceedings against them in the court, before any of them had arrived in England, except colonel Martin, who never had notice, nor had ever been called upon for his defence.

On Friday, the 5th of April, 1811, the court having met pursuant to a special summons, to take into consideration the cases of the officers in question, a motion was made, declaring in substance that the conduct of major De Morgan, as stated in the resolution of the court, on the 26th March preceding, was such as would have justified his removal from the service; but in consideration of the general influence of the evil example by which he might be supposed to have been led into his errors, and of the amnesty pronounced in the general orders, published by lord Minto on the 25th September, 1809, which was by some persons supposed to extend to all such offences as those of major De Morgan, it was proposed that the suspension affecting him should be removed, but that he should not be permitted to return to India till the court should be of opinion that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras should have rendered such a measure consistent with that support, which it was the paramount duty of the court at all times to give to the civil authorities.

Upon this motion an amendment was moved, the form of which was more consistent with the spirit of the amnesty referred to; conveying a mere formal reprimand, and expressing a full confidence that the leniency and moderation, evinced in this proceeding, would excite in the objects of them a corresponding sense of gratitude and devotion to the company's service. This amendment was negatived, and the original motion was affirmed by the ballot. Similar resolutions were, at the same time, adopted, respecting captain Marshal, lieut.-col. Martin, and captain Grant. The case of the honourable lieut.-col. Saintleger was reserved for future discussion.

In this summary we have thought it necessary to notice particularly only the most important of the discussions which took place in the court upon this interesting and long-agitated subject; we have, therefore, selected those instances in which the points brought under consideration were of such consequence, and urged so forcibly, that the authority of the chairman and the deputy, and the power of the majority, were often compelled to explain and justify to the reason of the smaller number; insomuch that, at the end, it appeared as if their own sense of justice reproached them with wrongs committed by their pride in upholding, through consistency, a rigour which their consciences could not approve. The tenacity and contentiousness of the spirit of controversy on both sides, may be estimated not only from the frequent and protracted debates without coming to any decisive result; but, still more, from the extent of the papers in which their mutual assertions, inferences, and exceptions, were interchanged, and placed in the shape of general appeals before the court; whence they come now before the public and before posterity, we fear, without any reason to hope that they will add much to the reputation of that assembly. It will be sufficient to cite, by way of illustration, one instance, in which the chairman and deputy, being charged with diffuseness of this kind, excuse themselves by stating, that they had six dissents to answer, containing 114 foolscap pages, and to go besides into a general review of the causes and progress of the disturbances at Madras, with the events of the parties concerned in them, which made it necessary to fill 103 demy pages; and these 103 had, it seems, been extended to 208 foolscap pages in the copy made for the use of the gentleman who made the charge. It is easy to perceive that, in a controversy carried on in this manner, neither party is likely to yield to the other: the heat and pride of argumentation harden the purpose and inflame the animosity of the parties contending. The lenity which good policy, as well as good natural feeling, attach to public justice, is lost sight of in the ostentatious pursuit of consistency; and even time

itself, which should produce reflection, moderation, forgiveness, and oblivion, has only the effect of reviving rigour, and preventing the extinction of passion and prejudice. In all public conflicts, in which the reconciliation of the parties becomes essential to the interests and safety of the state, oblivion of the past is the best and only sure foundation of security for the future; but, unhappily, in all the proceedings of those in authority, both at home and abroad, respecting the lamentable struggle at Madras, every step taken has been directed to resuscitate and to add eternal rancour to the remnants of the malignant impressions created by those sad events. It is to be hoped, that the records of these proceedings will exhibit them, as we think they must, as evils most carefully to be avoided by posterity; and that future governors of India, and future directors of the East India company, if not enlightened by examples of wisdom and beneficence, left to them by the governors and directors of the present day, will at least be preserved from many a misfortune, by taking warning from the monuments of mischief erected for their instruction; so much to the cost and sorrow of the generation in which we live.

If we decline all observation on the merits of the numerous military cases, that yet await the decision of the court of directors, our motives must be obvious. These depend wholly on the disposition of the court, and we should be sorry to irritate it by any unpalatable, and, under circumstances, perhaps, unseasonable remarks.

The time of the court of directors, and proprietors, was occupied also by considerations connected with the general state of their affairs, and the disposal of the patronage of the company. The latter gave rise to the renewal of the question, which had been much debated in the preceding year, of the propriety of re-admitting, without a previous return to England, the writers and cadets, into the East India company's service, who had been dismissed on account of the use of undue influence in procuring their original appointments. On calmer and more dispassionate reflection, and after frequent discussion on the subject, it was at length admitted, that it was not necessary to persist, in all cases, on the application of the strict letter of the resolutions, pronouncing the necessity of an absolute recall of the parties from India, but to suffer those, to whom no active participation in the original abuse attached, to continue in the enjoyment of the benefits of the service, on the fresh appointment of a director. The humanity of individual proprietors and directors would have extended the principle to the whole of the dismissed servants, but it was not thought advisable to hazard the success of the several restorations recommended by any general proposition; but to trust to after circumstances and impressions, and the weight of the precedent established, for the extension of its principle. In consequence of the favourable disposition, now manifested, two gentlemen were re-admitted as writers and one as cadet, preparing the way, one would hope, for a re-admission, at no distant day, of all the innocent parties, who had fallen under the severity of a penalty, which should have attached only to the guilty.

The state of the finances of the East India company required a share of the attention of the court of directors, and led to the determination of a further appeal to parliament for pecuniary assistance. The pressure of affairs which induced the application, on the present occasion, was stated by the directors to be temporary merely, and to be produced by circumstances that were not likely to recur. The difficulties of the company were alleged to arise, first, from excessive and unexampled drafts made in the two last years on the court of directors, amounting to 4,764,946*l.* part of the Indian debt incurred in the course of several wars and expeditions carried on against Indian powers; and as the condition under which the greater part of that debt was contracted, allowed an option to the subscribers to be paid at any time by bills of exchange upon the court of directors in England, these

drafts had now come upon them, and could not have been prevented. 2nd. From the unexpected calamities that had befallen the company's shipping in the two previous years, whereby they had experienced a direct loss of 1,048,077*l*. These and other events, that had tended to embarrass the company at the instant, were succinctly set forth in a petition,* which was submitted to the approbation of the proprietors, and adopted by the latter body without any nice discussion.

But the prayer or object of the petition, which solicited a transfer of one million and a half sterling from the national, to the private treasury of the East India company, did not meet quite so ready an acceptation by the House of Commons, to whom it was in the first place preferred, or on a re-consideration of its merits at an after period by the House of Lords. Some inquiry was made in both houses of Parliament into the truth of the allegations of the petition, and into the foreign and domestic circumstances of the company, and the consequent probability of the return of the money, requested on loan. Every one of the points involved were investigated, and gave rise to debate—but this was not carried to any great length, from the want of fuller information on many important heads, which was expected ultimately to be derived from the labors of a committee of the House of Commons, that were in the progress of an actual and close enquiry into the general affairs of the company, at the time when the petition was presented. On a primâ facie statement of assets by the East India company, and a reasonable presumption, apparent on an enquiry, of their sufficiency for the repayment of the money in question, the requisite sum was voted, but not without producing a laboured dissent from the *Earl* of *Lauderdale*; which will be found at length in the account of the proceedings of the House of Lords.

The present session of parliament was distinguished by a minute and unwearied regard to the finances and circumstances of the company. A select committee, consisting of twenty one well-informed members, was appointed, as will be observed in the parliamentary proceedings, at the very commencement of the session, to make enquiry into these mixed and intricate subjects, which pursued its commission with a diligence and perseverance that could not be exceeded. They were aided in their investigation by two digested and able statements, drawn up officially under the orders of the court of directors, and presented by their secretary to the committee of the House of Commons, under the comprehensive title of an exposition, and supplement, of the state of the company's finances at home and abroad. The first of these papers was presented to a former committee in 1808, and afforded a general and methodised view of the pecuniary concerns of the company, so far as they could be ascertained at that period—and the supplement, carried down the detail so far as it could be pursued from official and forthcoming documents, to the 10th of April, 1810, the date of this second paper. These were not required, for the purpose solely of elucidating the necessity of the loan, and the prospect of its repayment; but for the more important object of illustrating the general condition of the company's affairs; previous to the consideration of the policy, at a future season, not very distant, of the renewal of the company's charter. As such a consideration, come when it may, must embrace a most extensive field of enquiry, it would naturally give a latitude to, and direct the course of the antecedent investigation of the committee; who appear, in what they have already perfected, to have considered the importance of their trust, and not to have been deterred by the complexity and extent of it, from endeavours to fulfil it to the utmost. During a single session, they appear to have made three distinct reports; all of them instructive, but the latter peculiary interesting, from the various information contained in it, and from

* Vide State Papers, p. 381-2.

the manner in which it is conveyed As all of these are inserted at length with the exception of the appendices, among the state papers, it would seem unnecessary, in this place, to take any distinct notice of them ; and more particularly as we may be required, hereafter, to go minutely into their contents, when the enquiry shall be completed, and shall lay all matters bare before the public, and enable it to decide a question, as important and embarrassing, as ever presented itself for discussion.

The House of Commons also entertained motions for papers, relative to the expedition against Macao, which had been undertaken, and suddenly abandoned by *Admiral Drury*, as mentioned in a preceding volume ; and to the dissensions that had recently existed, in the military and civil branches of the service, at the presidency of Madras. The papers on the first subject were refused ; but on the second were most readily granted ; on a general impression on the House of the necessity of an enquiry into transactions, that had touched the interests of the East India Company, in a vital part, and might relatively affect them, even to a more extensive and alarming degree. As connected with the latter discription of papers, Mr. *Creevy* stated his intention of moving, at a future occasion, for the recall of Sir *G. Barlow*, to whose injudicious measures he ascribed the past evils, and the apprehended consequences. But the session passed away, and another has succeeded, without such intention having been acted on.

But though the judgment of the country on these transactions, and the actors in them, is not yet pronounced, the agitation of the questions related with them has not passed without its use, if it produce nothing more, than the information thrown out in the progress of the discussions, by certain members of the house, who appear to be conversant with Indian subjects, and peculiarly advised of the feelings and sentiments of the Indian army. Among these Sir *Henry Montgomery* principally distinguished himself by his statements respecting the common opinion of Sir G. Barlow's administration, the general irritation of the public mind—and the known causes that produced it. Nor did the honourable baronet content himself with these statements, and the suggestion of such counsel as appeared applicable in his contemplation, to the existing state of things—but he took all the pains in his power, for which the court of directors and the company's army ought to consider themselves much indebted to him, to effect a practical good, by the removal of a great and fixed cause of discontent, long rankling in the mind of the local military, respecting the relative rank of the king's and company's officers. This he proposed to remedy by settling the comparative rank of the two services on broad and equitable principles; which would obviate the present misunderstandings and future occasions of dissatisfaction. With this intent he endeavoured to introduce a clause into the mutiny act, regulating the command of the different description of officers, by the relative dates of their commissions—and supported the view he took of the subject, by a very intelligent and impressive speech. The proposed clause was opposed by the president of the board of controul, and, it is with regret we add, was ultimately unsuccessful.

A further specification of the subjects that have fallen, within the interval embraced by our review, under the consideration of the authorities appointed to direct and controul the governments of India, would not seem to be required of us ; since we have treated the leading particulars at great length, in a former volume, and have introduced into the present an ample account of the discussions at the India House and in Parliament, which have subsequently grown out of them, and which constitute so large a portion of the succeeding sheets. These must now be left to make their own impressions, and to correct any partial error observable in ours.

TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S SARASVATI MAHAL

CHRONICLE.

BENGAL *Occurrences for* JANUARY, 1810.

JANUARY 2.—The army, assembled on the southern frontier of Bundlecund, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Martindell, was formed into brigades on the 10th ultimo, at Soopah, in the following order:

Lieutenant-colonel Martindell, commanding the forces.

Lieutenant G. H. Glover, 17th N. I. brigade-major.

CAVALRY BRIGADE.---1st regiment Native cavalry, lieutenant-colonel Brown.---5th regiment Native cavalry, lieutenant-colonel Fawcett.---6th regiment native cavalry, lieutenant-colonel Houston

FIRST BRIGADE OF INFANTRY.—Lieutenant-colonel Mawby, H. M. 53d foot,—brigade-major lieutenant Chipnel, 53d foot,—brigade quarter master lieutenant Greenbridge, 53d foot—1st battalion 53d foot, major Mansell—1st battalion, 17th N. I. major Carpenter—1st battalion, 22d N. I. major Wood.

SECOND BRIGADE OF INFANTRY.—Lieutenant-colonel Dauvergne, 26th regiment, Native Infantry,—brigade major lieutenant Dickson, 26th regiment Native Infantry—brigade-quarter-master lieutenant Barton, 26th regiment Native Infantry—1st battalion 19th, (volunteers) lieutenant-colonel Arnold—1st battalion 26th, Native Infantry, captain Lamb.

PARK OF ARTILLERY.---Captain-lieutenant E. Graham.

ENGINEERS.—Ensign Morrison.

One subaltern artillery officer, and a proportion of field pieces, attached to each corps.

Lieutenant Baddeley and a detachment of pioneers; and an officer of engineers (Morrison) with a detachment of miners or sappers.

Major Kelly's (or 4th) light brigade, consisting of 10 companies, but not brigaded---On the march to form the advanced guard.

The whole of the above force marched from their ground at Soopah, on the 12th ultimo, *viâ* Siranagur; and on the 16th encamped at Chatterpore. One complete company of European artillery, with a battering train, marched from Cawnpore, the end of November, for Soopah, but were detained at Calpee. The rains in Bundlecund, from the first till the 12th of last month, were heavy and incessant.

JAN. 6.---Letters received in the course of last week from Oude, mention a very serious commotion, which had arisen in the district of Sicrora, in consequence of the refractory conduct of the Rajah of Nanparah, a principal zemindar in the vizier's dominions. Six companies of the 2nd battalion of the 16th Native Infantry, with three six-pounders, under the command of major Bird of that corps, marched against Nanparah some time ago; but it being found that the fort was of very considerable strength, and provided with cannon, and the garrison shewing a determination to stand a siege, it was afterwards deemed necessary to order a larger force into the field. Accordingly, a detachment, composed of the 1st battalion of the 9th Native infantry, six companies of the 2nd of the 16th, three companies of the 2nd of the 4th, and two of the 1st of the 21st, with two troops of the 31st regiment of Native cavalry, and a proportionate train of battering guns, was formed

under the command of lieutenant-colonel M'Grath. This detachment obtained possession of the fort, without loss, on the night of the 17th ultimo, the rebels having decamped, under the apprehension of the assault, which it was proposed to attempt on the succeeding day. The captors found a large depot of grain in the fortress; from which it was concluded, that the besieged had resolved to hold out to the last: and they probably would have done so, but for the alarm excited by the novel sight of battering cannon and howitzers served by Europeans.

In consequence of these commotions, the 2nd battalion of the 27th was ordered to Sicrora; and two companies of the 1st of the 9th posted at Byramghaut.

Jan. 10.---The Delhi ackbars, received two days ago, state, that on the 26th of Ramzan, a battle was fought between Shuja ul Mulk, the late king of Cabul, and his brother Mahmud. On the first day, the victory was obtained by the troops of Shuja ul Mulk; but Suleh Khan and Ishak Rai defeating the king, and joining Shah Mahmud, a second and still more severe battle was fought, in which Shuja ul Mulk was totally defeated, with the loss of Gulistat Khan, Sultan Mahmud Khan, the Hakim of Cashmire, and Subdal Khan, brother of the same Hakim, wounded, besides many others.

After this defeat, Shuja ul Mulk proceeded from Candahar, to the Indus, with such expedition, that he arrived there in eight days, accompanied by Yahun Khan and Mahummed Khan, the brothers of Shumsher Khan, the vizir, who fell in a former battle; and Abdallah Khan, and some other followers, amounting in all to 125. On reaching the bank of the river, opposite to Bhakhor, a messenger was dispatched to Nawaub Surbulend Khan, to advise him of the state of Shuja ul Mulk's affairs, and requesting that he and his followers might be permitted to pass the river without molestation, which was readily agreed to, and the king entered the city in disguise, but soon afterwards made himself known.

Runjeet Sing had returned to Lahore, after possessing himself of Kergrakut, by stratagem; his troops now occupy that place.

Last Wednesday morning, between eight and nine o'clock, the southern portico of the town hall of Calcutta gave way, and suddenly came to the ground. Fortunately, from the early hour at which this accident occurred, the bricklayers and other workmen employed on the buildings were not at work, so that the only loss or injury arising was confined to the edifice itself. On taking the levels, the foundation was found to have given way, insomuch that the walls of the southern front were four inches lower than the centre; and those of the northern front, two inches lower than the level of the centre of the building. It is thought probable that the building will require to be removed to its foundation.

Jan. 11.---Letters from the camp of Dowlut Rao Scindia, of so late a date as the 24th of December, state that chieftain to be then at Tirail, a place in the neighbourhood of Shahpoorah.

Grœme Mercer, Esq. the British resident at Scindiah's court, accompanied by W. Lindsay, Esq. assistant to the embassy, arrived in camp, from Calcutta, on the 19th ultimo, and was admitted to his first audience of the Maharajah on the 22d.

The reports then prevalent in this quarter, respecting the movements of Meer Khan, were so extremely various and contradictory, that no correct or certain inference could be formed with respect to them.

According to advices received last week from Loodeaunah, Runjeet Sing was then at Lahore, having returned from his campaign against the chieftains of the hills.

It would appear, that Soojah-ul-Mulk still continued to maintain a strenuous, but unsuccessful, struggle for his monarchy, in the northern districts of Candahar.

Jan. 20.—The detachment, under lieutenant-colonel M'Grath, has been engaged in operations against the fortress of Puragpoor, which they carried by assault, on the 4th current; but not

without the loss of two officers, and about fifty Sepoys. Lieutenants Samuel Woolley and W. H. Dickson, of the 1st battalion 9th regiment of Native infantry, two young men of great gallantry and promise, fell in the attack. The detachment still remained before Puragpoor, on the 7th current.

JAN. 21.—According to a letter from Agra, of the 2d current, the cold was so intense, that the mercury in the thermometer stood, on that day, at the almost incredibly low point of $31\frac{1}{2}$ degrees, or half a degree below the freezing point.

JAN. 23.—In a letter of the 12th current, from Scindeah's camp, it is stated, that Ameer Khan was at that time in the Bopal district. Bopal is a small state, situated on the south-west frontier of Bundlecund, about 50 coss south of Jhanu. An understanding is supposed to subsist between the Rajah and the Mahratta chieftain. These accounts confirm the report of a second engagement between the followers of Ameer Khan and the Berar troops, which had terminated to the disadvantage of the former. In this last encounter, Ameer, it is said, lost many of his Sirdars, and about five hundred of his men, besides two pieces of artillery. The letter adds, that the Khan himself was wounded with a spear, in the heat of the battle.

Former accounts left Ameer Khan on the banks of the Nerbuddah, at no great distance from Gurrah Mundelah; but it would appear, from those now received, that he has, since that time, been moving rapidly in a retrogade direction. He is attended by his horse only; his brigade of regular infantry being occupied at present in the country of Joudpore. They have received orders, it is said, to join him, but have refused to march, until their arrears shall be paid. The Khan is without money. Since the late battle, his standard has been deserted by the Pindarrees and Dukkannees, who form so large a portion of his followers; and, considering the desperate state of his resources, there is every probability that his whole force will dwindle in a short time to nothing.

JAN. 25.---Letters from Bundlecund state, that a strong party of light infantry and horse, under the command of that active officer major Kelly, had been detached on the 6th of January, from colonel Martindell's army and were to cross the Kayn river on the following day. The object of this movement was to repel an incursion made by Gopaul Sing,---a bold and enterprizing chieftain, who some time ago occupied the Kotrah district in that province, but was deposed by the British government, in favour of Bukhelbullee, the rightful proprietor. Gopaul Sing, having entered the district with a force of cavalry and infantry, had obtained an unexpected victory over the united troops of Kishore Sing, of Punna, Soneesat, Rajahram, and Purseram, together with a considerable body of matchlock-men from Banda,---the whole under the command of Imaumbuksh Khan. In this affair, two guns belonging to the Punna Rajah were taken; and Imaumbuksh, with about one hundred of his men, was killed. Double that number were wounded. Major Kelly, having moved from Chatterpore, proceeded rapidly to the entrance of the ghauts; and, on the 11th current, after a march, rendered particularly fatiguing by the nature of the country, reached Salyha and Gung, where Gopaul Sing had taken post after his victory. Unfortunately, however, he was a day too late; Gopaul having received previous information of the design, that was on foot, to intercept him, moved up the Ghauts on the 10th, with the whole of his plunder. On the 12th, intelligence was brought to major Kelly, that a body of Gopaul's people had again descended the Ghauts, and taken post at three different places. The major instantly proceeded, with a troop of cavalry and 120 light infantry, in the hope of surprizing them. They did not wait his approach, however, but fled up the second range of Ghauts. Their chokies were taken, and they were closely pursued to the entrance of the Mootmoorro Ghaut.

This service being performed, major

Kelly's detachment received orders to rejoin the main body under colonel Martindell; and, on the 15th of January, they were again as far as Henouty, on their return to Chatterpore. The 1st battalion of the 16th Native infantry were appointed to protect the country, during the absence of colonel Martindell's army, from the further inroads of the banditti; and, with that view, had marched towards the entrance of the Ghauts. They reached Kokherettee, on the 15th current.

The scene of these operations is described as a very fine country, but not very fully peopled. The property of the peasants had suffered considerably, from the depredations of Gopaul Sing. Bukhelbullee was on a pilgrimage at Benares.

BENGAL

Occurrences for February.

FEB. 3.---The latest accounts, from the Douab, supply additional proofs of the singular intensity of the cold, which has been experienced during the present year, in the upper provinces. In the neighbourhood of Muttra, a large portion of the indigo weed, and all the cotton-plant, which survived the first rigours of the season, has latterly been destroyed by the frost.

FEB. 4.—A dreadful alarm was excited on the evening of Thursday last, in the neighbourhood of Kalee. A Sepoy belonging to the Calcutta Native militia (under the influence, it is supposed, of a paroxysm of madness,) rushed, with a drawn tulwar in his hand, among the people in the street, and laid about him with a fury which quickly dispersed the by-standers. One unfortunate man was killed; his head being nearly severed from his body by a single stroke of the weapon, which was unhappily wielded with all that dexterity for which the people of the military cast in this country are so remarkable. Another was carried to the general hospital with both his hands nearly cut off at the wrist, and a dreadful wound on either breast, close to the shoulder. After clearing the spot of every human creature, the maniac next turned his rage upon the quadrupeds; and several luckless goats had fallen under his tulwar, before his career was stopped by the Burkendasses of the neighbouring Cutcherry of the judge of the twenty-four Pergunnahs, who at length disarmed and secured him.---On being questioned, his discourse was quite incoherent, and betrayed every mark of insanity.

General Orders by His Excellency the Vice President in Council.

FORT WILLIAM, FEBRUARY 13.---The vice president in council has received, with sentiments of equal concern and displeasure, the report of further acts of violence and outrage committed by some of the cadets attached to the institution at Barasut.

After a full and impartial investigation into the origin and progress of those disgraceful transactions, it has been satisfactorily shewn to government, that the most conspicuous and criminal among those who were implicated in them, were cadet W. D. Monsel, and ensign J. J. A. Fyler. In order, therefore, to mark his just sense of their peculiarly aggravated misconduct, the vice president in council has determined to suspend them from the service of the honourable company, until the pleasure of the honourable court of directors shall be known, and to direct them to proceed to England by the earliest opportunity.

The commander-in-chief is requested to direct the remaining cadets, who were put in restraint, to be kept under close arrest, until a final decision shall be passed on their case.

J. ADAMS,
Sec. to Govt. Mil. Dept.

FEB. 20.—The last accounts from col. Martindell's detachment describe, that it had made a retrogade movement towards the frontier, for the purpose of protecting the province of Bundelcund from any eventual incursion, which Meer Khan might have the hardihood to attempt. The Khan was collecting his followers

among the hills, and was expected shortly to commence those predatory operations, which are peculiar to Mahratta warfare. It was understood, that colonel Martindell would take up a central position, covering the company's frontier; while the Madras force would advance into the country, and attack the few strong holds which Meer Khan possesses.

Colonel Martindell's detachment had halted for the space of thirteen days, at Darrewar, on the banks of the Narrainee, where he waited for advices from colonel Close. On the receipt of these, he made a movement in advance towards Seronge. Meanwhile, so far back as the 28th ultimo, that city had been evacuated by Meer Khan, who fled on the first news of colonel Martindell's approach. On the 10th current, colonel Close entered the place, and took possession of it without resistance. On the 15th, colonel Martindell was again encamped, two miles to the north of Khemlassa.

Letters of the 8th current from Serroor, represent that station as completely deserted; the whole of the Bombay troops serving there, having taken the field and marched to reinforce the army of colonel Close in Malwa. A considerable force, still remained at Poonah.

On Tuesday last, about 3 P. M. a fine ship of 700 tons, was launched from the dock-yard of Messrs. John Gilmore and Co. in presence of a numerous concourse of spectators. She was named the Fairlie, and made her descent into the water in a very fine style.

Feb. 22.—The following is an accurate account of the ceremonial, attending the placing of the first stone of the Mausoleum at Ghazepore.

On Friday, the 22d December, the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the Mausoleum, to be erected over the spot containing the remains of the late most honourable marquis Cornwallis, governor-general in council, commander-in-chief, &c. &c. &c. took place at Ghazepore. The firing of sixty-six minute guns, corresponding with the number of years attained by his lordship, commenced at sunrise; during which the detachment of troops, that had arrived in cantonments the preceding day, from Benares, under the command of major Leslie, marched in ordinary time from their ground of encampment; and dressed by the guns, at about a quarter before the close of the firing of the minute guns, at which period, the whole of the troops advanced towards the excavation, and there grounding their arms, the European and native officers, with the men, repaired to the spot, where major-general Macdonald, attended by his staff, stood to perform this ceremony. At the south west end of the foundation, an oblong stone of considerable weight, was suspended by a cable and windlass over its proper bed; the cement was laid by the workmen, and adjusted by the major-general, who was presented with a silver trowel by the architect, for the purpose. The stone was then lowered to its bed, and the plan of the building, with the plum, level, and square, successively presented to the major-general, by major C. Mouat, of engineers; with which, having tried the stone, and found its position to be correct, he laid it in its position, by several strokes with a mallet. The following inscription, engraved on a copper-plate, was then inserted by major-general Macdonald, in a cavity that had been cut in the stone for its reception.

THIS
MAUSOLEUM
IS ERECTED
IN PURSUANCE OF A
RESOLUTION
PASSED AT A GENERAL MEETING OF
THE
INHABITANTS
OF
CALCUTTA,
Held on the 26th of October, 1808,
To the following effect:
That,
In addition to the public mourning,
Which has been adopted as a public
Token of the concern felt
By this settlement, on

The Death of
MARQUIS CORNWALLIS,
A
Mausoleum be erected,
With the permission
of Government,
Over the place of his interment, at
Ghazepore,
As
A memorial of esteem and reverence
For his virtues, and of gratitude
For his eminent services.
The first stone was laid
By
Major-general JOHN MACDONALD,
Commanding officer in this province,
By order of
Lieut. general GEORGE HEWETT,
Commander-in-chief,
And
Under instructions
From
The Right Honorable
GILBERT LORD MINTO,
Governor-general in council,
On the 22d day of December,
1809.

Major CHARLES MOUAT, of engineers,
Architect.

An inscription cut in Persian, on a stone slab, to a similar effect, was by the major-general placed over the plate of metal, containing the English inscription. Mr. Sweedland, commercial resident, Mr. Ernst, judge of Benares court of appeal, Mr. Bird, magistrate of Ghazepore, and Mr. Ricketts, collector of government customs, including a number of native gentlemen, with a numerous assemblage of spectators, from the town and adjacent country, were present during the ceremony.

FEB. 24.—On Sunday evening last, about 7 P. M. a dreadful fire broke out in the Perutollah, immediately behind Tiretta's Bazar, and continued to spread destruction for upwards of three hours, when it was at length subdued by the exertions of the firemen. Some hundred huts, and one small Pucka dwelling-house, were consumed. A grove of Cocoa-nut trees also caught the blaze, and presented a singular and picturesque spectacle. One unfortunate Portuguese woman and her child were surprised, while asleep, by the flames;—and, before they could be extricated, the child was burnt to death, and the woman so severely scorched, that she survived only a few hours.

Two other fires also broke out in different quarters of Calcutta on the evenings of Saturday and Monday, but they proved less extensive in their ravages.

At the sale of the company's opium, which took place on Saturday last, the Patna opium brought an average price of from 1525 to 1565 rupees per chest, and that of Benares, from 1425 to 1465 rupees.

FEB. 26.—By late letters from Agra, it appears that the robbers in that part of the Dooab, had latterly become unusually formidable to the inhabitants. Two horses belonging to officers at the station, had, within the space of a few weeks, been seized from the hands of their Syces, and carried out of the cantonments. In one instance, the Syce was knocked down;—in the other, severely wounded.

BENGAL

Occurrences for March.

MARCH 3.—Advices have been received from Scindia's camp, of so late a date as the 18th ultimo, at which time that chieftain, with his forces, was encamped at a place called Dunnoop.

According to the last accounts received there, Ameer Khan was plundering the country, in the neighbourhood of Oujein. The junction of the Bengal and Madras armies, and the occupation of Seronge by colonel Close, were known at Dunnoop.

Mahomed Shah Khan, the principal Sirdar in the service of Holkar, was at the head of a force of 12,000 men, at no great distance from Scindia's camp. He had received injunctions from Holkar's ministers, to lend no assistance whatever to Ameer Khan. Holkar himself continued quite incapable of business.

MARCH 17.—Letters from major

Dellamain's camp, state, that Gopaul Sing had again retreated into the mountains, and that the British force had taken up a position, by which they blockade the entrance of the Ghauts.

The attack made by captain Wilson on Gopaul Sing's position, on the 18th ultimo, appears to have failed, in consequence of the great strength of the ground occupied by the left of the enemy. The officers wounded on that occasion, were lieutenant de Waal, and ensign Agnew, of the 16th Native infantry, lieutenant Aspinwell of the 7th, and lieutenant Fireworker Timbrel of the artillery.

MARCH 18.—No further particulars of the daring robbery, lately committed on a public convoy in the neighbourhood of Patna, have yet transpired. The treasure carried away on that occasion by the Decoits, amounted to 74,000 rupees. The Sepoys were completely surprised and overpowered; and, of the whole twenty-four, who composed the guard, not one, it is said, escaped without a wound. Three Sepoys were killed on the spot.

His Majesty's ship Phæton was received into Mr. Smith's new dock on Tuesday last. The injury which she has sustained is of such a nature, that her preservation is looked upon as next to miraculous. At one time she had nearly fifteen feet water in her hold, and her situation altogether was such, that hardly any hopes of saving her were entertained.

A small ship of 300 tons burthen was launched on Tuesday afternoon, from the dock-yard of Mr. Blackmore. She was named the Margaret Frances.

General Orders by the honourable the vice-president in council.

FORT WILLIAM, March 21.—His excellency the commander-in-chief having embarked for Fort St. George, and major-general St. Leger being the senior general officer upon the staff of this presidency, the vice-president in council directs, that all reports and returns of the troops under the presidency of Bengal, be transmitted to major-general St. Leger, at Fort William, until further orders.

Major-general St. Leger, is authorized to appoint a secretary to assist him in carrying on the details of the army.

MARCH 27.—Between twelve and one o'clock in the forenoon, the Bore presented a singular appearance. After having passed the Bankshall with furious velocity, a considerable portion of the wave returned, and rushed, in a contrary direction, along with the stream on the western side of the river. This appearance has not been observed previous to the present year.

Extract of a letter from Hansi, March 8th, 1810.

"A few days ago, five horsemen stationed at a village about fourteen coss from hence, hearing that a pig had been taken by a tyger, went to the spot on foot, where they found a lion and lioness feeding upon it; the latter, on the patch of grass being set on fire, went off, but the former advanced slowly towards the men with his mane and tail erect, at whom they fired a volley from their match-locks with so good an effect, as induced them to go up and destroy him with their swords, which was accomplished after one man had been severely wounded.

"The animal was sent hither, and appeared to be a full grown lion, in every respect the same as the African one, except that the colour of the mane, which was very thick, is rather lighter.

"A lioness, a few days previously, had been sent in from Hissan, having been killed by a party of horsemen, but not without one man and two horses being wounded."

The above proves, that lions are to be found in India as well as in Africa.

Letters from Agra mention, that the robberies at that station had become of late so frequent, that scarcely a dark night passed without some one or other of the officer's bungalows in the cantonment at Nomillah, being plundered.

A family residing a few days, for

change of air, in the buildings belonging to Taje Mahl gardens, which are encompassed in their whole extent by a high wall, were lately attacked by a party of decoits, and robbed of the principal part of their property; their trunks and other portable articles were carried off.

A letter from Agra of the 10th curt. mentions several other robberies; one or two of which are particularized in the following terms:

A few nights since a large gang of thieves made an attack upon the camp of horse artillery, in the rear of the lines at Nomillah. One grass cutter was killed upon the spot, and some others severely wounded. One man was so much cut in his arm, that it was necessary to amputate it on the following morning.

MARCH 28.—Recent letters give an account of the complete extinction of the daring band of freebooters lately commanded by the Bundelah chieftain Gopaul Sing, and on the renewed prospect of security and peace which that event holds out to the company's possessions in Bundlecund. This important service was accomplished by a detachment of horse, headed by lieutenant-colonel Browne of the 1st Native cavalry, who had proceeded from Agra, and assumed the command of the force stationed at the entrance of the ghauts under major Delamain. Gopaul Sing, emboldened by his former success, having again ventured into the open country in quest of plunder, was fortunately overtaken and brought to action by lieut.-colonel Browne, on the 19th current. The British detachment consisted only of the 1st regt. and a squadron of the 8th Native cavalry. The whole of Gopaul's army (amounting, as supposed, to from 2 to 3,000 men,) was cut to pieces, with the exception only of Gopaul himself, and about 40 troopers, who fled with him up the ghauts. The loss on our part was very trivial indeed:—only one trooper killed;—one jemadar, one naick, and four troopers wounded.—nine horses killed, and seven wounded.

The following is a correct account of the affair, between a detachment of Meer Khan's force, and a party of cavalry, from the army of colonel Close. Colonel Close had received intelligence, that a body of about 500 men in Ameer Khan's service, commanded by the Khan's brother-in-law, had taken post to the westward. He immediately dispatched a small party of dragoons in the hope of surprizing them. The dragoons made a forced march of 48 miles; halting only for one hour during the whole journey. They were on the point of coming up with the Mahrattas, when, by some unlucky accident, the bugle was sounded, and the enemy, hearing it, took the alarm; in consequence of this circumstance, the best part of his horse had time to make their escape. The infantry, however, to the number of 300, (all of them dressed like English sepoys) were overtaken, and, with the exception of about twenty, were cut to pieces.

According to late accounts from the camp of Dowlut Rao Scindia, that chieftain had quitted Ajmere, and had taken up a position, at the point where the Kharee Nuddee falls into the Bunas, and three or four miles above Rajmahl. While at Ajmere, the Maha Rajah had been alarmed in the night by some commotion among the camels and bullocks of his camp retinue, which was considered as a matter of evil omen. He moved, in consequence, on the following morning, (after having disbursed a sum of 20,000 Rupees, with a view to avert the impending calamity,) and made three successive marches to the Southward. In consequence of the presence of his army at that season, within the Jaypore territories, much devastation was going on among the green crops, against which the Jaypore Vakeel is said to have remonstrated in vain.

BENGAL

Occurrences for April.

APRIL 2.—The subjoined account gives a detail of the military operations in Bundlecund, from the termination of major Kelly's expedition up the Ghauts, to the period of col. Browne's

late successful rencontre with Gopaul Sing's force.

On the march of colonel Martindell's detachment from Bundlecund, major Kelly was recalled from the pursuit of Gopaul Sing, and directed to join the main body of the army. Captain Wilson, with only the 1st battalion of the 16th, and two 6-pounders belonging to that corps, was left at the entrance of the Ghauts, for the protection of the province. Gopaul Sing, finding that he had no considerable force to cope with, again descended the Ghauts, with a predatory party, inferior in number to that which accompanied him on his first incursion, and entirely without artillery. On his approach, captain Wilson deemed it prudent to fall back on Kokherettee, where he was reinforced by five companies and a gun, under the command of captain Dare. He advanced again; and, on the 18th of February, came to action with the enemy, close to a village named Pereerea, about six miles distant from Kokherettee. The result of this affair is generally known. Gopaul Sing was so strongly posted in the village, and was protected on every side by such impracticable ground, that captain Wilson found it impossible to carry the position, and was forced to retire, after considerable loss, leaving Gopaul in possession of the field. On this occasion, several wounded sepoys of the English party fell into the hands of the enemy, who (with a magnanimity the more honourable, as it is so rarely to be met with among the chieftains of Hindostan, and in a mere adventurer, is almost without example,) directed their wounds to be dressed, attended in person to see that they were comfortably disposed, and sent them afterwards under charge of his own people, with a polite letter, to captain Wilson.

Meanwhile major Delamain, with a squadron of the 3d Native cavalry, joined the first battalion of the 16th, and superseded captain Wilson in the command; and Gopaul Sing, having by this time realized pretty considerable collections, returnedto his recesses above the second range of Ghauts; where he deposited his booty, and continued watching for a favourable opportunity to make a fresh descent.

Major Delamain disposed his force in the manner best calculated to command the approach to the mountains. Gopaul contrived, however, to elude his vigilance; and, having dashed suddenly down the Ghauts, proceeded directly to the cantonments at Terrowah. He arrived there on the 7th ultimo, and immediately set fire to the bungalows of the officers, together with such of the public buildings as had thatched roofs. On the alarm of this incursion, major Morgan, with five companies of the 7th Native infantry, was immediately detached from Adjeeghur, for the protection of the cantonment. He proceeded by forced marches, and reached Terrowah on the morning of the 8th,—unfortunately a day too late for the preservation of the public property of the station. The enemy escaped, by the rapidity of his movements; which were the more easy to him, as his force consisted principally in cavalry. Such, however, was the precipitation of his retreat, that he left uninjured two of the bungalows, and the company's bullockshed, as well as all the tiled buildings at the station, and the out-houses belonging to the officers. After quitting the lines, however, Gopaul having learned that one of the bungalows, which had escaped, was the property of captain Wilson, who, on a former occasion, had set his own camp on fire, he sent back a detachment of thirty men with orders to destroy it.

After this exploit, Gopaul took up a strong position between the villages of Dowcallee and Rypoor, about 12 miles distant from Terrowah, having a deep nullah in his front, and the hills in his rear. There he remained until the 14th ultimo; when major Morgan, having first lodged all his baggage in the fort of Terrowah, and having received a reinforcement of two companies of the 2d battalion of the 26th, under captain Watson, from Chittearcote, proceeded to attack him.

Gopaul had received previous intimation of major Morgan's intention, and made his arrangements accordingly. He drew off the whole of his infantry, under cover of the jungle, which surrounds the base of the mountains, and awaited the attack with his cavalry only. He calculated that he should have full time to make his retreat, while major Morgan should be engaged in transporting his guns across the river. Contrary to his expectation, however, the fire of the 6-pounders opened on him from the opposite bank; and he was compelled to seek safety, by a precipitate flight along the margin of the hills, until he reached the Paldee pass, where he again halted and encamped.

While these events were going forward at the foot of the Ghauts, Gopaul's infantry, which he had withdrawn, previous to the action, passed along close under the hills, and made a second attempt on the cantonment; when they succeeded in completely destroying every article of property, which had escaped the fire of the 7th. Not a single hut, nor even a bamboo, belonging to any of the buildings (private or public,) was left standing. Their devastations were next directed to the town of Terrowah; which they had plundered and laid in ashes, before major Morgan could come up to its succour. The inhabitants fled, on their first approach; leaving, it is supposed, a very rich prize to the rebels,—the town of Terrowah having always been considered as one of the most opulent and flourishing in Bundelcund.

The officers of the 26th Native infantry have suffered very severely in their private property, in consequence of these occurrences.

The news of the destruction of Terrowah were communicated by express to colonel Martindell; and on the morning of the 11th ultimo, within half an hour after the receipt of the dispatch, colonel Browne, with the 1st regiment of cavalry, marched from camp to reinforce the detachment opposed to Gopaul Sing. Col. Browne, after a forced march of 44 miles, came up with the enemy by surprise, near Buchown, (a place about ten miles distant from Adjeeghur,) in the afternoon of the 19th. Gopaul had with him about 5 or 600 of his followers, who dispersed on the first charge. Colonel Browne, however, having formed his party into squadrons, succeeded in cutting to pieces about 250 of the enemy. Gopaul himself, with about fifty of his people, made good his retreat up the Jenua pass. Our loss on this occasion has been already stated. Gopaul, it is said, had afterwards rallied his force above the Ghaut; whither major Leslie, with his battalion, had gone in pursuit of him.

The whole force, now in the field against Gopaul Sing, consists of three regiments of infantry, commanded by majors Morgan, Delamain, and Leslie, the whole of the 1st Native cavalry, a squadron of the 3d, with a galloper attached, and a squadron of the 8th.

Colonel Martindell's army was in camp at Tearee on the 24th ultimo, having remained there stationary for twenty-two days. Recent accounts state, that colonel Browne had received orders to rejoin colonel Martindell, with the least practicable delay.

Meanwhile, a considerable force had arrived, to occupy Seronge, on the part of Holkar, in whose name that fortress had been seized: and it was feared that, on the retreat of our army, the place might again fall into the hands of Ameer Khan.

Bheenpore Barree and Chokeyghur, two places taken from the Bhoonsla, during the late campaign, by the united forces of Ameer Khan and the nawaub of Bopaul, have been restored.

It is reported, that Runjeet Sing has lately taken advantage of the existing commotions in the kingdom of Cabul, to extend his conquests among the dependencies of that empire.

A committee was some time ago instituted at Agra by authority of government, for the purpose of superintending the repairs of that exquisite monument of Oriental art, the Taj Mahl.

April 3.—On Sunday evening last, presently after the cessation of a smart north-wester, two successive shocks of

an earthquake were distinctly felt, in many parts of Calcutta and its vicinity. The time of the occurrence, as noted by different persons, was between twenty and twenty-five minutes past seven, and the duration of each succession was variously estimated at from 6 to 30 seconds. The vibrations appeared, at first, to pass in a line from north-east to south-west; and then to return in an opposite direction. They were almost universally perceptible to those who were sitting at the time in the upper apartments of their houses; but were, in a few instances, observed on the ground floors. At one house in Garden-reach, where a party of eleven was sitting at dinner, the shocks were very strongly felt by three of the number, seated at one corner of the table, and also by the three others at the opposite corner, while they passed unobserved by the rest of the company.---Besides the peculiar sensation experienced in their own persons, by those who witnessed the phænomenon, in many houses, a very distinct motion was communicated to the oil in the wall-shades, the gerandoles and lamps were seen to swing, and even the mirrors (such as were fastened, at the upper extremity, with a cord,) were observed to vibrate towards the wall. In a room on the central floor of one of the turrets of the lower orphan school at Howrah, (which is a very old and infirm building,) the force of the undulations was so considerable, that a couch on which a person happened to be reclining, was moved on its castors at the first shock, to the distance of nearly a foot from its original position close to the wall, and was again thrown back to its place by the returning succession. To some persons the vibration appeared to be accompanied by a noise, which they describe as resembling the sound of muffled bells.

Reports from various stations in the lower parts of Bengal, as far up as Moorshedabad, mention the occurrence of a similar phænomenon, nearly about the same hour. By a letter from Ramnagur, the vibration is stated to have been felt there at half past seven, and to have continued for an unusually long time. At Guttaul, the shock was distinctly repeated thrice.

April 4.—A notification was this day published, intimating the intention of government to permit country ships, under certain restrictions, to proceed from hence to England, laden with cargoes on account of their respective owners. All vessels sailing, under the terms of this advertisement, are required to put to sea previous to the 31st of May next. The articles which they are prohibited from shipping, are piece goods, raw silk, indigo, pepper, salt-petre, tea, and nankeens.

That fine ship, the Russell, was purchased, in the course of last week, on account of the Philippine company, and is to be employed as their annual galleon, for carrying on the trade between Manilla and Acapulco. The price stipulated, is 350,000 rupees,—to be paid on delivery of the ship at Manilla.

The extensive property, belonging to the estate of the late Mr. Weston, and commonly known by the name of Tiretta's Bazar, was sold, at Tulloh's auction-room, on Tuesday last, to Joseph Barretto, Esq. for the sum of 150,000 sicca rupees.

April 5.—Late akhbars from Delhi state, that Runjeet Sing was besieging the fortress of Mooltan, in the province of the same name, that the fire from his batteries had dismounted many of the enemy's guns, and that he had rejected proposals of compromise tendered by the rajah.

Shujah-ul-Moolk, late king of Cabul, appears from the last accounts, to have been resident in the neighbourhood of Attock; but it is not said whether as a sovereign prince at the head of an army, or as an humble dependent on the rajah of Lahore.

Ameer Khan, according to the latest advices, was at Chytore; and the ministers, both of Holkar and Scindiah, had come to the resolution of preventing him from joining his army.

Letters from Bundelcund, announce that captain Wilson, who, with a squadron of cavalry, a galloper, two six-pounders, and eleven companies of

Native infantry, had been detached by major Delamain against a strong hold belonging to Gopaul Sing, above the second range of ghauts, had completely succeeded in routing and expelling the enemy. Major Delamain had for some time been up the ghauts, in pursuit of Gopaul;—his whole force, not exceeding thirteen companies of Sepoys, three six-pounders, a squadron and galloper; while majors Morgan and Leslie had been posted, with their corps, to observe Gopaul's movements on the side of the plains. Major Cuppage, with an additional squadron of horse, and three companies of infantry, had latterly marched from Adjeeghur to join major Delamain. It appears that, in the late affair with colonel Browne, Gopaul Sing had been completely taken by surprise, being ignorant even of the fact of such a corps having been detached in quest of him. After that action, he had succeeded in rallying his forces, and had disposed them, with the apparent design of cutting off the mutual communications between the parties of British troops above and below the ghauts.

Shujah-ul-Moolk, the deposed king of Cabul, has found a permanent refuge in the Seik territories. He had resided for some time at Rahwelpundee, a place about fifty miles distant from the Indus, and had subsequently moved to Khubdoor, about ten miles south-east from the fort of Attock. He was there encamped, with his followers, early in the last month. Meanwhile, Mahmud Shah, the usurping prince, attended by Futteh Khan and his other adherents, remained at Candahar.

The embassy to Cabul, which had for some time been stationary at Delhi, has been finally dissolved and recalled by a late order of government.

April 14. Captain Wilson has succeeded in expelling the enemy, in Bundlecund, from his principal strong hold in the mountains,—a place named Jhughur. This service was effected on the 4th current, after a march of uncommon difficulty, retarded equally by the ruggedness and steepness of the ascent, and by the artificial obstacles which the enemy had constructed. The entrances of the fort, however, being once gained, no further resistance was attempted. Gopaul and his people fled precipitately by the opposite gate, and sought shelter in the jungle. After rasing all the works, and burning the stores, the detachment returned to Kokherettee. It does not appear, that either party sustained any loss in the course of this affair.

April 28. On the afternoon of the 20th current, a most furious tornado was experienced at Camercolly, which passed in a direction from south to north, sweeping away every thing before it. The factory-house was completely unroofed, and much of the furniture destroyed. Three of the villagers lost their lives; and many other individuals were seriously injured.

By accounts received in the course of last week from Agra, it appears, that on the 14th current, the city had been visited by a hail-storm, equally, or even more, remarkable in its circumstances than the storm which occurred some weeks ago in this part of Bengal. Many hail-stones are said to have fallen at Agra, equal in magnitude to the mouth of a large wine-glass. And, on the following morning, innumerable birds, stunned by the hail-stones in their descent, were found dead about the adjacent fields. A similar storm was experienced, just about the same time, at Allahabad.

April 29. An ambassador from the state of Sind, having come round from Bombay, on the Tweed pilot schooner, landed at Calcutta some days ago.

The new light-house at Saugor is now completed, and will be immediately lighted up, for the benefit of the trade entering this port.

BENGAL

Occurrences for May.

May 2.—A dispatch was received at the presidency on Monday last, from the agent of the right honourable the Governor General, at Moorshedabad, announcing the death of his highness the Nawaub of Bengal, at his palace between ten and eleven o'clock,

on the night of Saturday last, the 28th of April. His highness is succeeded by his eldest son, a youth of between 17 and 18 years of age.

The deceased Nawaub was the grandson of Jaffeer Ally Kawn, the nabob by whom the first revolution, in the days of lord Clive, was effected. He was named Babur Jung; his official address was, the Nawaub Nazim ul Mulluck, Behader. He had attained the Age of 36 years. He succeeded to the Musnud on the death of his father, the late Nizam Nawaub Mobaruck ul Dowlah, about 18 or 20 years ago, near the close of lord Cornwallis's government. The order of the family succession was then declared and formally proclaimed, with great solemnity, and in presence of all the troops of the station.

The nawaub now deceased, was one of 12 brothers, and three sisters, all of whom, except himself, are still alive. He was the son of Mubaruk ul Dowlah, who was the youngest son of Jaffeer Ally Khawn, and succeeded to the musnud at about the age of eight years; the last in succession of a long train of brothers :---a notable instance of the transitory condition of human affairs. Although little more than half a century has elapsed, and though the nawaub is but the grandson of the nawaub Jaffeer Ally, the instrument of the Great Revolution effected in Bengal, in 1757, the power, as well as the order of sovereignty then established, appear equally permanent; and is viewed by the people, and surrounding states, with the same sanctity and veneration, as if it had descended from primeval times.

The nawaub Babur Jung, has left two sons. Perceiving eight or ten days ago, that his dissolution was approaching, he manifested some alarm respecting the succession to the musnud, and appointed, as far as it was in his power to accomplish, his eldest son to the nizamut, by seating him on the musnud, and ordering all the state servants to present him with nazirs, as nawaub Nazim.

A strong detachment from his majesty's 22d regiment, and the Native troops, in cantonments at Berhampore, were marched on Saturday, by order of general Palmer, into the city of Moorshedabad, to preserve tranquillity; and had there been any design of exciting tumult or disorder it was effectually counteracted, by the presence of the troops. As a measure of precaution, the detachment continued in the city on Sunday, the date of the latest accounts thence.

The remains of Babur Jung were interred on Saturday last, at Jaffergunge, the burying ground of his ancestors. The ceremony was attended by Richard Rooke, esq. the agent of the right honourable the Governor General; by the present nawaub, the eldest son of the deceased, &c.

MAY 3. --- The contradictory accounts received through various channels from China, render it difficult to determine, whether the release of the company's ships, which were under embargo in the river of Canton, has been actually brought about by the conciliatory disposition of the Chinese government, or by the open defiance of their authority. A letter, dated the 3d of March, from a very respectable source, states, in express terms, that the fleet sailed on the 1st of that month, *without* their grand chops. The concurrent testimony, however, of all the subsequent advices is, that if the chops were not issued in the first instance, they were granted at some period previous to the final dispatch of the ships. Subsequent to that event, nothing certain had occurred, indicative of an open rupture between the Chinese government and the Committee of Supercargoes. On the contrary, it would appear, that the points in dispute between them, had been set to rest, by an adjournment *sine die* of the discussion.

There are accounts, which mention the occurrence of another affray, posterior to that which had been the cause of the late embarrassment, and threatening consequences of a nature equally serious. While the ships were passing down the river, a party of English sailors, it is said, having gone on shore, for the purpose

of burying the corpse of one of their comrades, were interrupted in that office by a body of Chinese. A scuffle ensued, in which one Chinaman and one European were killed, and another Chinaman dangerously wounded.

The H.C.'s ship Cuffnells sailed with the other Indiamen from China; but parted from the rest, off Poolo Aor, and proceeded through the Straits, in prosecution of her voyage to Bombay.

Down to the 10th of March, nothing had been effected, either towards the reduction or the conciliation of the Ladrones; whose increasing power and encroachments give daily fresh subject of dismay to the representative of the celestial dynasty at Canton, and his councellors.

May 4.---During a violent storm of rain and hail, which occurred on the night of the 24th ultimo at Bhaugulpore, the quarter-guard of the Hill-rangers was struck by the lightning, and burnt to the ground. Fortunately however, all the sepoys, who were present in the building, escaped unhurt.

The new loan opened at this presidency on the 24th ultimo, was intended to absorb all the loans of former years, of which the principal is payable by bills on the court of directors. In exchange for the latter advantage, the holders of company's paper, who should subscribe the same to the new loan, would have a more advanced place on the general register. The promissory notes of 1802-3 were already advertised for payment, and would be discharged at the treasury on the 1st of June, if not previously commuted for notes in the new loan. And, by a prosecution of the same system, there seemed every likelihood, that government would very shortly be enabled to extinguish the whole, of the old public debt, at that and the other presidencies of India.

The canal of Alee Merdan Khan, which formerly watered the city of Delhi, and the whole tract of country from thence to Panniput, but which has latterly fallen to ruin under the moghul and Mahratta governments, is now under repair. A committee of officers left Delhi some time ago, to survey its remains; and workmen are now employed in clearing the whole extent of its bed, and restoring the aqueducts of solid masonry by which it originally held its course through the city.

May 12.—On the evening of Saturday last, just about the hour of sunset, the house of Mr. Strettell, near the south extremity of Calcutta, was struck by lightning. The course of the fluid was traced to a hole in the roof, where it entered at the points of two iron crows, which had been left there by the bricklayers employed in finishing the terrace. It passed down the walls in two distinct streams, tearing off the plaster, shattering the frames of the venetians, and breaking to pieces the glass windows in its course. In the upper story, the greater stream dislodged some of the bricks from the masonry of the wall, and projected them with such force, that they passed through the whole length of the drawing-room into a back apartment, where they were found on the floor near one of the eastern windows. A small stream appears to have diverged towards one of the upper corners of a large mirror in the second story, stripping off the plaster in its progress. It could not be traced further, and it is supposed to have re-entered the wall close to the mirror. The whole course of the two principal currents, from their first entrance at the terrace, to the points at which they passed into the earth, was throughout distinctly marked.

The advantages to be expected from the use of conductors in protecting houses from the effects of lightning, have seldom been exemplified in a more striking manner than by the history of this accident. It appears, that the electric stream was, in the first instance, divided into two branches, by the attraction of the iron crows, which it found on the summit of the house. Each of these streams, in its progress to the earth, followed the direction of the nearest windowbolts, on the side of the house down which it passed, doing no violence whatever in any part of its course, but where it met with non-

conducting substances. The preservation of Mrs. Strettell and two of her children, who were close to the windows at the time, can only be attributed to the fortunate influence of these iron window-bolts on the direction of the fluid.

It is a singular circumstance, that the shock of this electric explosion, was so sensibly felt on the opposite side of the street, as to dislodge an adjutant from his pinnacle over one of the gates of the government-house, and to throw him on the shoulders of the sepoy centinel who was walking below. The animal was stunned by the fall, and had one of its legs broken. We are happy to add, that it was the only serious sufferer on the alarming occasion.

May 19.—On Tuesday morning last, the right honourable the governor-general landed at Chandpaul Ghaut, from the Modeste frigate. His lordship was received at the landing place by the members of the supreme council, the major-generals and the staff, and the other principal civil and military officers at the presidency.

On Wednesday morning last, an European artilleryman was dreadfully wounded in the arm, at the saluting battery in Fort-William, in consequence of the explosion of the cartridge with which he was loading one of the guns. It was found necessary to amputate the limb immediately.

Another shock of an earthquake was felt at this presidency, and throughout the neighbouring country, at about a quarter before 10 o'clock on Sunday evening last. The concussion was repeated thrice, and its effects were nearly the same as on the former occasion. Those, who perceived the phænomenon, describe the vibrations as of longer continuance than those before experienced, but rather inferior in point of violence. The direction of the shock was from N. E.

May 20.—Late accounts state that colonel Close, with the whole of his force, had left Hoosseinhabad, and fallen back towards the company's territories.

Colonel Martindell, with the Bengal detachment, still kept the field at Tearee.

The prodigious host of followers, whom Ameer Khan has attracted to his standard, begin already, it would seem, to prove burthensome to their master. His coffers had been found inadequate to the wants of the many necessitous adventurers, who compose that motley body. And it was not until the end of April, that he was able to quit the banks of the Berus, (a small river, which takes its rise in the Oudipoor lake, and falls into the Bunas,) and to proceed on his march to Nutudwara. At the latter place, he proposed to settle the affairs of Oudipoor.

On the 7th current, Dowlut Rao Scindea, with his force, was encamped half way between Ooneara and Rampoora; and, as far as could be judged, had no present intention of quitting that part of the country. The decided movement of Ameer Khan towards Oudipoor, had dissipated his apprehension of any immediate visit from that chieftain or his Pindarees; and he was taking advantage of the interval of tranquillity and confidence, which that movement afforded him, to renew his demands on the Jaypore rajah, for the arrears of the contribution, which he has so long claimed from that potentate.

Letters from Oude mention that Roshen Khan, a refractory Zemindar, in the dominions of the nawaub vizier, who for some time had disturbed the peace of that part of the country, had been taken and brought in, by a detachment of British troops from Bareilly.

A letter from Secrora of the 6th, states, that the temperature was then so mild in the cantonments there, that few had yet resorted to the use of tatees. During the whole of April, the air had been refreshed by frequent showers; and, neither in that quarter, nor in any part of Hindostan, does it appear the usual hot winds of these months had been sensibly experienced.

In this part of Bengal, however, the

Monsoon has, at length, set in with considerable violence; and, after a continuance of about five or six days, has brought with it a deluge of rain, accompanied by that state of the atmosphere and appearance of the sky, which are the usual precursors of the regular wet season.

On Saturday last, C. T. Metcalf, Esq. left this presidency by dawk for Banda; whence he will proceed, by the shortest route, to Scindea's camp, for the purpose of receiving charge of the residency at that court, from Grœme Mercer, Esq. who proposes to return to Europe by the first ships of the ensuing season.

Richard Parry, Esq. being compelled by the state of his health, to return from Bencoolen to Bengal, is to be succeeded in the office of resident at Fort Marlborough, by William Parker, Esq. at present one of the commissioners for investigating the debts of his highness the nawaub of Arcot.

On Thursday morning last, about eight o'clock, a body of Native caulkers, to the number of about forty, proceeding across the river to their usual work in Mr. Blackmore's dock-yard, having crowded together into one of those small boats, which usually ply at the ghauts, the boat was suddenly upset by a violent gust of wind, and the whole of the passengers precipitated into the river. The weather at this time was extremely boisterous, and the sea so high, that, though the accident occurred within a short distance of the opposite shore, not one of these unfortunate people could, by his own exertions, have gained the land. By the aid, however, of the boats, which were passing at the time, and of others which put off from the dock-yard, those, who had sufficient strength to keep themselves afloat, were preserved. The rest (to the number of about ten in all) were totally lost. The boat, in which they were, was carried away by the current, and has not since been seen.

BENGAL

Occurrences for June.

June 20.—The army, lately commanded by colonel Martindell, at Tearee, has finally broken up; and the several corps have set out for their respective cantonments.

All the temporary staff appointments in Bundelcund have been done away; and the light companies of the 2d battalion of the 14th, and 1st battalion of the 6th Native infantry, at present forming part of major Kelly's light infantry battalion, have received orders to join their respective corps.

The detachment of artillery, under captain Battine, returns from Bautlecund to Allahabad.

Captain Sydenham, of the Madras establishment, having resigned the honourable company's service, and quitted Hydrabad, lieutenant Charles Russell has been left in charge of that residency. Henry Russell, Esq. returns, to Hydrabad, on the arrival of colonel Close at Poonah.

On Wednesday morning last, the right honourable the governor-general held a public levee at the government-house. The members of council, judges of the supreme court, the civil and military officers stationed at the presidency, together with most of the principal inhabitants of Calcutta, attended on the occasion.

PROCLAMATION.

Fort-William, June 5, 1811.

We, the governor-general in council for the management of the affairs of the united East India company, do acknowledge and declare our good friend and ally the nabob Syud Zyne Oo Deen Alli Khan to have succeeded to the Subahdarry of these provinces, in which we will assist and support him to the utmost of our power; and we also hereby require and command all persons within, or belonging to, our jurisdiction, and we do desire all persons, our friends and allies, to acknowledge the said nabob Syud Zyne Oo Deen Alli Khan as Subhahdar of these provinces.

Published and proclaimed, by order of the governor-general in council,

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief sec. to govt.

Fort-William, June 5, 1810.

The right honourable the governor-general in council has been pleased to direct, that a salute of nineteen guns be fired from the ramparts of Fort-William, at twelve o'clock this day, in honour of the accession of his highness the nabob Syud Zyne Oo Deen Ally Khan, to the musnud of the three provinces, and that the above proclamation be read at the head of all the troops in garrison, at sunset this evening, under a salute of three vollies of musquetry.

N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief sec. to govt.

JUNE 9.—The mercantile accounts from Canton are favourable. Cotton, it is understood, was at thirteen tale per pecul; and opium had latterly experienced a quick sale, at an advanced price.

Two of the principal Ladrone chiefs, with their junks, and a body of about 17,000 pirates, had accepted the terms proffered by the Chinese government, and had returned to their allegiance. The other squadrons still continued formidable, and prosecuted their depredations in the river of Canton as before.

It appears that an English schooner, called the Hope, commanded by captain King, had been taken on her voyage from Penang to Rangoon, by a fleet of Burmah prows; and, after a detention of nearly two months and a half, during which time the cabin was plundered, and the commander kept under constant restraint, her redemption had, with great difficulty, been effected.

Letters from Bundlecund announce that major Kelly had resumed the command at Kokkerootee, and had taken up an advanced position on the south bank of the Meerhassen river, for the purpose of observing Gopaul Sing. The force of that chieftain was supposed to be considerably reduced; and he had not for some time shewn himself in the plains. It was expected, however, that, after the conclusion of the rainy season, if not at an earlier period, he would again be brought into contact with our troops.

JUNE 10.—Major Delamain's detachment, consisting of thirteen companies of Native infantry, two squadrons of horse, and half a company of pioneers, with three six-pounders, and two gallopers, marched out of the district, on the 24th ultimo. The force left under major Kelly's command, consists only of the light infantry battalion, (now reduced to the five light companies, belonging to the several corps on duty in Bundlecund,) two companies of the 7th Native infantry, and a squadron of cavalry, with two six-pounders and a galloper.

The honourable Mr. Elphinstone, and the gentlemen of his suite, were at Nujeena, on the 7th of May, on their tour through Rohilcund. They had renounced all intention of returning to Delhi; and proposed to proceed, by Rampoor and Bareilly, direct to Futtyghur, where boats were held in readiness to convey them to the presidency.

JUNE 11.—A meeting of the proprietors of the bank of Bengal was held at the Bank on Monday last, when a statement of the accounts of the bank was laid before them. From these it appears, that the profits of the bank, during the period of four months succeeding the payment of the last half yearly dividend, are at the rate of rupees 8 15 3 per cent. per annum, on the capital stock of the bank.

On Sunday last, about mid-day, a number of straw-huts, and several small brick dwelling-houses, situated near the Bow-Bazar, were consumed by fire. The conflagration broke out in the hut of a Native cow-keeper; and continued to spread for several hours in a northerly direction, with uncommon fury. One Native woman lost her life.

JUNE 16.—The City of London from Bencoolen, brings advice of a very smart action, maintained by the brig Daphne, captain Holl of Calcutta, against a French schooner privateer, carrying two eighteen pounders, and having on board a complement of sixty Europeans. This affair happened near Padang, where the Daphne arrived on the 23d of April. The privateer was

compelled to sheer off, after having lost several of her men. No person on board the Daphne was in the least injured, nor did the vessel herself sustain any material damage.

The above privateer had previously captured, between Tappanooly and Nattall, a small English brig, named the Buchanan, belonging to Madras. She had also cut out from the latter port, two laden chuleahs, the property of Mr. Prince.

JUNE 17. On the afternoon of the 31st ultimo, the whole right wing of the new barracks at Meerut, occupied by his majesty's 17th regiment, were consumed by fire.

JUNE 20. Her highness the Begum Sumroo arrived at Meerut about the latter end of May, and remained there, on a visit to major-general Fuller.

His highness the nawaub vizier, returned to Lucknow, on the 1st current, from his annual hunting excursion. His highness entered his capital, with great pomp, on the following day.

Extract of a letter from Adjeeghur in Bundelcund.

Adjeeghur, June 10, 1810.

"A most dreadful accident happened here yesterday, which nobody can account for. A magazine, containing an immense quantity of ammunition, found here when the fort fell, blew up with a most tremendous explosion. A prodigious shower of stones immediately followed the crash; and, in their descent, killed seven men, and wounded many more. No European was much hurt."

BENGAL

Occurrences for July.

JULY 7. The late ukhbars state, that Shuja-ul Moolk, the deposed king of Cabul, is again in force upon the Indus; and that Runjeet Sing had returned, with his army, from Mooltan to Lahore.

The Cape packet is the first vessel which has been fitted out from Calcutta for Amboyna, since the reduction of that settlement. She left the river on Tuesday last.

W. B. Martin, Esq. of this establishment, has been appointed, by government, to the office of resident at Amboyna, and will proceed thither, by an early opportunity.

JULY 8. The rains have at length fairly set in, in this part of Bengal; and though they have hitherto been more scanty than might have been expected, the apprehensions of famine, excited by the extraordinary and long-continued drought of the season, are entirely done away.

At Rungpore, Mynporee, and other stations to the eastward, the fall of rain has been more abundant than in the neighbourhood of Calcutta;—so much so indeed, that the indigo plant in these districts has suffered considerably from the inundation. The letters from the upper provinces, on the other hand, and from the westward, as far down as Beerbhoom, complain, that in consequence of the continued hot winds and parching weather, the indigo planters, whose weed was ready for cutting, could not procure a sufficient quantity of water to commence the manufacture.

The dividend now due to the proprietors of the bank of Bengal, for the half year terminating on the 30th of June, 1810, is at the rate of rupees 3. 14. 9. per cent. per annum, on the capital stock of the bank.

On Monday last, at 2 P. M. the new ship of 800 tons, built at Mr. Smith's dock-yard, on account of captain Wm. Henderson, was launched into the Hoogly in presence of a numerous concourse of spectators. She was named the Cornwall. She is deemed a very fine model; and is finished in a masterly manner. She carries at her bow, a fine figure head of the Prince of Wales, dressed in his full robes as Duke of Cornwall.

The man belonging to the pilot service, who was sent to the general hospital about two days ago, on account of a wound which he received from a shark in the river, is in a fair way of recovery. The man was standing carelessly in the water, with only one-half of his body immersed, when he was seized by the animal. It fastened the teeth of its upper jaw in one of his

hips, while those of the under jaw entered the flesh of the opposite thigh. He was near the shore, and extricated himself without assistance.

July 9. The following detailed narrative of the late rencontre between the Daphne of Calcutta, and a French privateer, off the West Coast of Sumatra, is taken from a letter of captain Holl, commander of the Daphne.

" I went into Soosoo on the 11th April, where I had the vexation to hear, that an American brig, with 44,000 dollars from Philadelphia had been taken out of Laboonagee, by a French privateer; where the aforementioned news were confirmed to me, with these additions, viz. that the privateer was a three masted schooner with two 12 pounders forward, rowing 30 oars, with 60 men, 6 swivels and small arms, and that she had left the place six days before, in quest of the Buchanan, said to be at Tampatua, and that the captain had said, he intended sailing for the straits of Malacca. Although I suspected the very reverse of what he expressed to be his real intentions, yet, as there appeared every probability of his return, (at least to these ports,) I thought it most prudent to leave this part of the coast, and go the outside passage, round Manselar and Baniack to Natal. At Natal I arrived on the 21st instant (April,) at day light, and, seeing a vessel at anchor off Durian point, (which weighed immediately as she saw us,) exactly answering the description we had received of the privateer, I hauled out again, and determined on proceeding immediately to the southward to Padang, and to forego the market I expected here, rather than to run the risk of meeting with the privateer.

" At noon on the same day, standing down with a fresh northerly wind between Pooloo Baniack and the island Pamong, I saw a sail coming down to windward, under two square sails and a jigger; but as we seemed to outrun her, and imagined we had left the privateer in Natal roads, we did not pay her much attention. At day light on the 22d, being about 4 leagues to the W. N. W. of Pooloo Toojoo, (*i. e.* about 10 leagues N. W. of Padang,) we saw a vessel astern, which I concluded to be the same, although she had now top-sails and top-gallant sails set. At three P. M. being nearly becalmed, the stranger seemed to near us faster than his sails could bring him, and in consequence I sent an officer to the mast head, with a glass, who soon perceived his sweeps. Being now convinced of our evil fortune in falling in with the vessel, which I had incurred so much trouble and loss to avoid, and having every expectation of being perfectly becalmed I thought it best to put on a good countenance, and take advantage of the light airs we then had, to keep the wind of him. In consequence, at four P. M. we shortened sail, tacked, and, with almost less than a breath of wind, continued (under the blessing of God) to keep him to leeward. At half past five, fired a shot and showed our colours. But the shot falling short of him a little way, we stood fast, when he used his utmost endeavours to cross out hawse. At twenty minutes before six, having got two guns to bear on him, kept up as constant a fire as we could from them, which he returned from his two bow guns, keeping away occasionally to give us his swivels and small arms, which brought him more aboam, where our other gun opened upon him.

" At 10 minutes before six he was within hail, and we expected he would lay us on board every moment, but he received three such effective discharges, successively, from the three guns, that his people were driven from their oars, and his decks, which, on his coming on, were crowded with men, seemed to be deserted. From the crash which we heard, on the close discharge of our guns, and from the cries of his people, as well as from seeing some of them go overboard, there is reason to think, he suffered greatly. At 15 minutes after six, he shot away upon our larboard quarter, when the Daphne being per-

fectly becalmed and immoveable, we were enabled to get the guns to bear on him. He then pulled away astern, and, as it pleased Heaven, we were no more troubled with him, although we were becalmed until 12 o'clock, P. M. a pretty convincing proof, that he was sick of his attempt. I was on the point of hailing him, when he shot upon our quarter, (from the confusion and astonishment they seemed to be in,) to strike to the British flag, but, recollecting that all our powder horns were empty, except one, all the shot on deck expended, and the vessel not under command, it appeared to be most prudent, not to irritate his sense of honor, but to avail ourselves of the respite he seemed inclined to give us, to put ourselves to rights, and provide for a second attack. The Almighty seems to have fought for us, as I have not a man hurt, and, as far as I yet know, scarcely a rope-yarn touched. The only damage we seem to have sustained, is in our ulwark, which is partly blown away, from the training of our guns.

"It appears, the privateer had captured the Buchanan, and had cut two coasting vessels out of Natal roads, the day before my arrival there.

"The privateer was informed of the Buchanan being in that quarter, by a Frenchman commanding one of the king of Acheen's brigs, lying at Laboonagee, at the time she came in, and I am well informed, that the privateers on this coast, are in constant habits of communication with these men, and obtain every information from them."

Advices from Berar, received by the way of Bund lcund, state, that the troops of the rajah of Nagpore have lately been engaged in an unsuccessful attack against the fortress of Gurrah Kotah, belonging to an independent chieftain, named rajah Murden Sing. On this occasion, the Boonselahs are stated to have sustained a loss of 100 men killed, and 200 wounded. Murden Sing having proved a more formidable enemy than the Court of Berar had expected to cope with, it was commonly reported, that Saadut Ali Khan was about to take the field, with a force of 10,000 men, for the purpose of conducting the siege of Gurrah Kotah in person. The place was strongly garrisoned, and well supplied with provisions and ammunition.

Major Kelly, with his detachment from Kokkeroottee, has taken up an advanced position at Lohargong, above the ghauts, where he remained on the 30th ultimo. Gopaul Sing, when last heard of, was at the village of Narut, at no great distance from the British party.

On the morning of the 29th ultimo, a strong and well-equipped party was detached from major Kelly's camp, for the purpose of dislodging a body of Gopaul's people, who had taken post in a small fortified house situated in the centre of the jungle.

The native advices from the Punjab mention Shuja-ul-Mulk, the deposed king of Cabul, was again on the banks of the Indus, in considerable force. The ukhbars add, that he had succeeded in assembling an army of Doorannees, and Affghans, with whom he had taken the field, and had set out for Peshour, with the design of attempting another struggle for his throne. The same accounts state, that great distress for money prevailed in the camp of his rival, Mahomed Shah, and that the troops of the latter were much in arrear; an observation, which is generally applicable to the camps and troops of all oriental potentates.

Runjeet Sing had not prosecuted his operation against the fort of Mooltan. Some arrangements seem to have been effected with the rajah of that principality, through the nominal mediation of Shuja-ul-Mulk; in consequence of which, Runjeet, accompanied by his army, had returned to Lahore.

JULY 10.—Late letters from the north-east frontier of Bengal, notice a slight disturbance in that quarter, connected with some local dissensions in the neighbouring kingdom of Assam. A rebel chieftain, belonging to the latter state, having usurped the inheritance of his brother's family, had contrived to obtain the secret support of the rajah of Bisnee, an extensive land-

holder, who, besides territories he owns within the company's provinces, has considerable in the adjacent Bootan country. To prevent the Burrapooken of Assam, from restoring his brother's heir to the estate, of which he had deprived him, this chieftain sent the boy, accompanied by his mother and sister, into the custody of Bisnee rajah; and, at the same time, committed his own wife and children to the rajah's protection. The party entered the British territories, escorted by some men, deputed for that purpose, by the Bisnee rajah, and accompanied by an elephant, the property of the despoiled family, which the usurper intended as a present to his coadjutor. The Rannee, however, privately contrived to dispatch this elephant, under charge of her Dewan, to the care of the officer commanding the British outposts at Jagagapah. The elephant was seized on the road by the Bisnee people. But early intimation of the circumstance being conveyed to the officer in question, he immediately dispatched a Havildar's party for the protection of the property. In the mean time, the elephant was rescued and brought in by a party of police Burkundasses from the Tannah at Goalparah. On the night previous to the arrival of the party from Jagagapah, the Bisnee people, alarmed by the discovery of the transaction, sent back the boy and his mother, to the usurper, on the other side of the Brahmapootra. The sister, however, remained; and, on the arrival of the sepoys, she took advantage of some remissness on the part of her attendants, to fly from their custody, and throw herself on the protection of the British party.

The Havildar, having no orders on the subject, declined to interfere. The unfortunate girl was then pursued by her female attendants, who, with five or six of the men, presently overtook and seized her, just as she was passing a small stream, which lay across the road. A struggle ensued; during which one of the ruffians thrust her head under water, and attempted to drown her. She was only rescued from this situation by the prompt assistance of the Havildar and Burkundasses who knocked down the assailant, and compelled the others to desist from their purpose. She threw her arms round the Havildar, intreating him to save her, and saying that she would certainly be put to death, if she was taken, and that on no consideration whatever would she return to Assam. The man was moved by her situation; and, though surrounded by a crew who threatened violence to himself, his presence of mind, aided by a very manly appearance, enabled him to baffle their menaces, and to conduct the lady in safety to Goalparah. There she remained under the protection of the police, at the date of these accounts. The Bisnee Rajah had deputed a Vakeel, to claim the elephant, and had sent a party to seize his agent at Goalparah, on account of his remissness, in neglecting to forward to his master an early intimation of the transaction. In the mean while, the matter had been made a subject of correspondence, between the magistrate at Rungpore and the Assam government,---the result of which would probably determine the fate of the parties.

Letters from the Rungpore district, of the end of June, state, that the Bhramapootra had risen, at that time, nearly twenty feet above its usual level, and, with the exception of a few spots of high land, the whole country about the frontier was overflowed. The plain opposite to the lines at Jagagapah, was navigated by boats.

In the Jessore district, the drought still continued, in such a degree, as materially to impede the operations of the Indigo-manufacturers, who were unable to procure sufficient water for the maceration of their weed.

COLLEGE OF FORT WILLIAM, *July* 10.

TENTH ANNUAL EXAMINATION,

PERSIAN.—First Class.

1. Prinsep, books value 500 rupees, and a medal.
2. Bird, ditto, 50 rupees, and a medal.

Second Class.

3, Molony. 4. Barwell, C. R. 5. Pro-

cher. 6. Patton. 7. Harington. 8. Bayley. 9. Trotter, A.

Third Class.

10. Curtis. 11. Tytler. 12. Grant. 13. Melville. 14. Jennings. 15. Nisbet. 16. Blagrave. 17. Sparks. 18. Smelt. 19. Lewin. 20, Scott.

Fourth Class.

21. Whish. 22. Middleton.

ABSENT FROM EXAMINATION.

Calvert, Smith, F. C. Petrie, Boldero, sick. Stockwel and Fraser, attended, but retired without being examined.

ARABIC.

1, Bird. 2, Tytler.

HINDOOSTANEE.

1, Bird, books value 500 rupees, and medal. 2, Prinsep, ditto, 250 rupees, and medal.

Second Class.

3, Molony. 4, Trotter, A. 5, Bayley. 6, Jennings. 7, Barwell, C. R. 8, Harington. 9, Blagrave.

Third Class.

10, Curtis. 11, Calvert. 12, Fane. 13, Nisbet. 14, Tytler. 15, Belli. 16, Patton. 17, Grant. 18, Sparks. 19, Smelt. 20, Kennedy. 21, Melville. 22, Trotter, J. 23, Scott.

Fourth Class.

24, Stockwell. 25, Lewin. 26, Drew. 27, Whish. 28, Brooke. 29, Fraser. 30, Morley. 31, Middleton. 32, Petrie. 33, Forde. 34, Barwell, A. C. 35, Gibson.

ABSENT FROM EXAMINATION.

Smith, F. C.

BENGALEE.

First Class.

1, Porcher, books value 500 rupees, and medal. 2, Belli, ditto, and medal. 3, Bird, do. 4, Prinsep.

Second Class.

5, Calvert. 6, Lewin. 7, Fane. 8, Kennedy.

Third Class.

9, Brooke. 10, Trotter. 11, Whish.

Fourth Class.

12, Morley. 13, Blagrave. 14, Ford. 15, Gibson. 16, Drew.

ABSENT FROM EXAMINATION.

Barwell, A. C. Petrie and Fraser attended, but retired without being examined.

PERSIAN WRITING.

1 Grant, books value 200 rupees, and a medal.

2, Prinsep, books value 200 rupees, and medal.

3 Middleton. 4, Whish. 5, Kennedy.

A specimen of the Nuskh character was also presented by Mr. Blagrave, who obtained the first prize for Nustaleek writing at a former examination.

NAGREE WRITING.

1. Blagrave, N. B. obtained the first prize last year.

2, Grant, books value 200 rupees, and a medal.

BENGALEE WRITING.

1, Blagrave, books value 200 rupees, and medal.

2, Whish, books value 200 rupees, and medal.

Medals of merit are awarded to Messrs. Molony and Porcher, for proficiency in the Persian language, to Mr. Bird, for proficiency in the Arabic language, to Messrs. Molony and Bayley, for proficiency in the Hindoostanee language, and to Messrs. Porcher, Belli, Bird, and Prinsep, for proficiency in the Bengalee language.

By order of the council of the college,

W. HUNTER, Secretary.

JULY 11. On Saturday last, accounts were received from Kedgeree, of the loss of the ship Sir Edward Pellew, capt. Stevens, bound out from the river, on a voyage to China. The following is a correct statement of the particulars of this loss.

At noon, on the 4th July, the Sir Edward Pellew weighed from Saugor, and worked down channel, with the wind at South East; at low water, anchored in half four fathoms, the reef-buoy bearing S. S. W. distant 3 or 4 miles. At midnight, the tide answering, weighed, and worked down channel; at A. M. on the 5th, passed to windward of the reef-buoy; at 2 A. M. tacked on the N. E. wind as above; at 3, again tacked in a half six fathom; Eastern channel lying out S. by W. and S. S. W. At this time it appeared from the deep sea lead, that the ship was making a S. W. course; and at day light, on the same morning (5th July) the ship struck on the Eastern sea reef, in a quarter less four fathoms; the second time she struck, she unshipped her rudder; a spar was rigged out astern, as a substitute for a rudder, and she continued to beat over the reef, in a quarter less three fathoms, and deepened into seven in the South channel, where she was anchored. The ship having at this time nine feet in her hold, it was necessary to keep all the pumps incessantly at work; and as the situation of the people on board became imminently perilous, the boats were got out, and

secured astern, with a long scope of rope.

In this state of things it was determined to proceed, if possible, to the Northward, to save the lives of the persons on board. With that intention, the fore top-sail, foresail, jib, and fore top-mast-stay-sail, were set, and the cable cut, on which the ship deepened into nine fathoms still in the South channel. The water at this time, had increased to 15 feet 4 inches, and the ship so much water logged, that she would not fall off more than S. W. and S. W. by S. wind South East; shoaling on the long sand, the anchor was again let go, and a whole cable veered out, when the ship brought up in six fathoms.

Finding every exertion unavailing, and all hope of saving the ship being now at an end, it was unnecessarily endangering the lives of the people to remain longer with the ship. At 10 A. M. on the 5th July, Mr. Bason, the pilot, with Mrs. Stevens, and seven of the ship's crew, went on board the cutter; and after much exertion and difficulty, arrived off Beercool, on the evening of the same day, and anchored off the creek. Next morning, the cable unfortunately parted, and the boat drove on shore, where she immediately bilged, and the persons on board, were obliged to quit the boat and come on shore, as the sea beat over them with violence. The Rajah of Beercool supplied the sufferers with such conveyance as he could command, and the party set out for Contai, where, on their arrival on the following day, they were received with the utmost kindness and attention by the resident. On the 7th, they reached Kedgeree, and thence safely embarked on board e Jessey pilot schooner.

Captain Stevens, his officers and men, except those who had gone with Mr. Bason in the cutter, remained by the ship, till about half past 12 o'clock on the 5th. At that time, the after part of the stern, rudder, and stern-post, were gone; the sea was running high, and there were fifteen feet water in the hold, and the ship sunk so much, that it was coming in, both fore and aft on the upper deck. Such was the state of the ship, when Capt Stevens quitted her in the long-boat, taking with him as many of the people as the boats would carry, and all the hands were thus brought off from the wreck, except 15. The long boat made for Kedgeree, and having arrived there, captain Stevens went on board the Philip Dundas pilot schooner, and returned to the wreck, in hope of saving the people who had been left behind, and a part of the cargo. On the 7th, the schooner came near the wreck, and captain Stevens went on board her boat, and picked up one of the men that had remained by the wreck; the others had left it upon the evening of the 5th, upon a raft which they had prepared. This man that was taken from the wreck stated, that the ship had filled entirely in the afternoon of the 5th, and overset upon her broadside. At five o'clock on the same evening, all her masts went over, except the foremast, which remained on the 7th, but at that time the ship had settled so much in the sand, that the water was within six feet of the foretop, so that it was impossible to save any part of the cargo.

No accounts have yet been received of the men who quitted the wreck on the evening of the 5th. From the blowing weather that has since prevailed, it is to be feared that they have perished.

July 21.—The cartel Harriet, in working up the river on Thursday morning, unfortunately took the ground twice; and, on the second occasion, was so firmly fixed, as to excite the most serious apprehensions for her safety. At a late hour yesterday, she was left high and dry on the sand, just below Fort Mornington Point, and was ultimately saved.

On Thursday last, the right honourable the governor-general held a durbar at the government-house, which was attended by all the vakeels of foreign courts resident at Calcutta, and likewise by many of the principal Native inhabitants of the presidency.

BENGAL

Occurrences for August.

August 1.—The latest accounts from the court of Scindea, present a picture of anarchy and disorder, but rarely paralleled even in the annals of a Mahratta camp. About the beginning of July, the Maharajah, with his forces, was in the neighbourhood of Ramghur, a place to the southward of Soopoor, and bordering on the state of Kotah. Another revolution had taken place in his cabinet; but the new minister being a Mahajun of low birth, and without consideration, possessed the confidence of neither party: and, it was thought not improbable, that he would soon follow the fate of one of his recent predecessors, who, about twelve months ago, expiated that elevation with his life.

The corps of regular infantry in Scindea's service, having been for a long time in a state of mutiny, on account of the large arrears of pay due to them, a mode of satisfying their demands had at length been adopted, equally effectual and inhuman. While drawn up on parade, they were suddenly surrounded by the whole cavalry of the army, and compelled to ground their arms. They were then plundered of every thing they possessed; those who attempted resistance, were butchered; and the rest were turned out of camp. It is supposed that the European officers, who also suffered with their men in the general pillage, would quit altogether the Mahratta country.

Amid all these outrages and tumults, an event had taken place in camp, which had been celebrated with great pomp and rejoicing. This was no other than the adoption of a son by the Maharajah; who, having no prospect of male issue from his own body, had selected a young lad, nearly related to the late heir apparent, who died some months ago, as the successor to the musnud.

August 6th.---On Monday last, counsel were heard in the supreme court, on a motion for a new trial, in a case of adoption. The question was, whether a Bramin could adopt the son of his sister? The Hindoo law was adverse to the practice; but that law, it appeared, had been introduced into Bengal only within the last 25 years, and even to this day was not generally recognized; while, on the other hand, it was opposed by custom immemorial. Their lordships, in consideration of this and other circumstances, were unanimous in refusing the application.

August 18.---The following communication from Bombay, gives a full detail of all the circumstances, relative to the unfortunate fate of the Earl Camden Indiaman.

"*Bombay, 24th July*, 1810.

"I am much concerned to inform you, of the total destruction of the earl Camden Chinaman; capt. Sampson, by fire. This event took place last night in our habour. The Earl Camden had only yesterday taken in the last 50 bales of her cargo, which amounted in all to 6,000 bales. The first symptoms of fire were discovered by the captain's clerk, who perceived a smell of burning, about 12 o'clock at night. The alarm being given, the officer commanding removed the gun-room scuttle, when the smoke instantly overwhelmed him. He dropped down, for a second, and perceived the flame playing along the larboard side. He then instantly bolted down the scuttle, and opened the deck over the spot where the fire appeared; and, having staved the butts, &c. proceeded to pour down water. All, however, was to no purpose.

" The alarm reached the shore about 10 o'clock. The captain, purser, &c. went off immediately; but, before they arrived, the flames had reached the great cabin, and were issuing from the windows. About 2 o'clock, the fire appeared all at once (from the shore) bursting up through the poop. In about half an hour afterwards, the dreadful element had complete possession of the hull, at least, as far as the fore-mast. And, as the ship was cut from her moorings at an early period, in order to take advantage of a flood tide that was setting favour-

ably for carrying her away from the rest of the shipping, she drifted before the current, aided by a gentle breeze, with her fore-stay-sail set, in awful majesty, to the opposite Mahratta shores, about 12 or 15 miles distant. There her remains are now stranded. These, however, must be scanty; for she burnt fairly, and, not having been scuttled, continued to rise gradually out of the water, as the fire lightened her, so that every thing must have been consumed to within one or two feet of her keel.

"It most fortunately happened, that she was moored outside of all the rest, otherwise more mischief must have happened. It was the grandest scene of the kind I ever witnessed. Many persons, actuated by curiosity, put off from the shore, and incurred considerable danger, by approaching her. The mizen-mast fell within a few yards of one of the boats, and the guns discharged their contents in succession.

"With respect to the serious question of what could have occasioned this fire, we are quite at a loss to determine. Two country ships under similar circumstances, have lately experienced the same fate. And the scrupulous investigations held on these occasions, before Mr. Crawford (one of our best and clearest magistrates) had led to a general belief, that the fire could only have been occasioned by the wilful act of the Lascars, tempted by the six months' advance of impress so injudiciously given. But, in this instance, captain Sampson, from that very conviction, took every possible precaution against this supposed source of danger, by never allowing a native to enter his hold during his stowage, nor even admitting his Lascars on board, until he had filled the holds, and battoned and caulked down all the gun deck hatchways; thus confining them to their own births forward. In fact, such perfection has of late been acquired in packing the bales, that, with the powerful aid of iron screws on board, the cotton is compressed to such a degree, that, wherever it happens to be at all moist, it gradually becomes heated. That heat increases as it dries, and then the ignition seems to commence. If this be the cause, all our China ships now here, with (still) upwards of 36,000 bales on board, must run a similar risk."

August 19. Sunday last being the anniversary of the birth of his royal highness the Prince of Wales, a royal salute was fired at noon from the ramparts of Fort William, in honor of the occasion.

Calcutta Gazette Extraordinary.

Fort William, Aug. 24.

The following dispatch from lieutenant-colonel Keating, of his majesty's 56th regiment, announcing the important event of the reduction of the isle of Bourbon, by his majesty's and the honorable company's arms, is published for general information.

To N. B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Sec. to govt. Calcutta.

Sir,

I have the honor to report, that the force consisting of 1800 Europeans, and 1850 Native troops, which the right honorable the governor-general of India in council has been pleased to confide to my orders and directions, for the conquest of the island of Bourbon, arrived at Rodrigues on the 20th of June, at which time I was absent on the important duty, which has already been detailed for the information of his lordship in my letter of the 16th of the same month.

The intelligence which I then obtained, enabled me at once to decide upon a plan of attack. A copy of which (No. 1.) I have the honor to enclose.

On the 24th of June, commodore Rowley, commanding the blockading squadron before the isles of France and Bonaparte, anchored in his majesty's ship Boadicea, off Fort Duncan, in the island of Rodrigues.

No time was lost in making the necessary arrangements for the reduction of this island.

From the unfavourable state of the weather, we were delayed at Rodrigues, until the morning of the 3d instant, when we weighed anchor, and pro-

ceeded to the point of rendezvous, fifty miles to windward of the island of Bonaparte, which point we reached at four o'clock on the evening of the 6th, when, in consequence of the judicious arrangements made by commodore Rowley, and the indefatigable zeal and exertions of captains Pym, of the Sirius, Lambart, of the Iphigenia, Curtis, of the Magicienne, Willoughby, of the Nereide, and lieut. Robb, 1st of the Boadicea; the whole of the troops were removed from the transports, and embarked on the frigates, which immediately stood in for the points of debarkation.

It will appear by the dispositions made in the plan of attack, for striking the first blow direct at the enemy's capital, that there were two objects in view; first, to prevent a protracted warfare in the interior of a country almost inaccessible to an invading army; and secondly, to insure the final reduction of the island in the shortest time possible, by securing the principal garrison, and the governor and commander-in-chief, whom I knew to be at Saint Dennis.

The first brigade composed of his majesty's 86th regiment, the 1st bat. of the 6th regiment Madras Native infantry, and a small detail of artillery and pioneers, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Fraser, was ordered to land at Grand Chaloupe, and to proceed by the mountains direct against the west side of the enemy's capital, whilst the second, third, and fourth brigades were to land at Riviere de pluise, and to force the lines of defence extending from the Butor Redoubt on the north, or sea-side, to the Redoubt No. 11, on the south, and from thence to cross the rear of the town to the river St. Dennis.

About two o'clock P. M. on the 7th, the several ships having reached their stations, the beach, from St. Marie to within gun-shot of the imperial battery, was reconnoitered by captain Willoughby of the royal navy, and lieut.-colonel Campbell, of his majesty's 33d regiment, commanding the fourth brigade for the advance.

The weather being moderate, and the enemy not appearing in strength, it was determined to debark the troops; accordingly, lieutenant-colonel Campbell, with 150 light troops of his brigade, and captain Willoughby, of the royal navy, commanding a party of seamen, and appointed to superintend the landing, immediately pushed off, and landed their men about 4 o'clock.

Lieutenant-colonel Macleod, of his majesty's 69th regiment, commanding the third brigade, with 150 men, effected a landing nearly at the same time; but, at this moment, the wind increasing with much violence, raised the surf to an unexpected height, and several boats being stove on the beach, the landing of more troops that evening became impracticable.

This important object was not, however, given up, until an experiment, concerted with commodore Rowley, was put in execution. A small transport (the Udney) was run upon the beach, in hopes that the troops might be enabled to land over her stern, or under her lee: this service was performed by lieutenant Lloyd, second of the Boadicea, with the usual intrepidity which distinguishes our navy; but the violence of the weather, and natural difficulties of the situation were such as to frustrate the intention proposed.

It now became necessary, if possible, to communicate with lieutenant-colonel Macleod, the senior officer, with the detachment on shore, which, in landing, had the whole of their ammunition damaged, and had lost a considerable number of their arms.

Lieutenant Foulstone, of his majesty's 69th regiment, in the most handsome manner, volunteering to swim through the surf, his services were immediately accepted, and that officer accordingly conveyed my orders to the lieutenant-colonel to take possession of, and occupy St. Marie for the night.

This service was performed by lieutenant-colonel Macleod in a masterly and officer-like manner.

I felt much anxiety for this detachment during the night, and as the practicability of disembarking more troops to windward appeared to commodore

Rowley, as well as myself, very uncertain, the Magicienne having on board the second brigade, was dispatched about 10 o'clock P. M to Grand Chaloupe, to which place it was determined that the Boadicea, with such transports as had military stores on board, should follow in the morning.

According to this arrangement, captain Lambert, of the Iphigenia, being left, with directions from commodore Rowley, to seize the first moment of moderate weather, to debark that part of the third brigade then on board his ship, I proceeded with the commodore in the Boadicea, on the morning of the 8th, with the remainder of the third and fourth brigades, and effected a landing to leeward, at Grand Chaloupe, about 11 o'clock A. M. With this force, under my immediate command, I instantly moved forward by the mountains; at 2 o'clock P. M. passing over the heights, I reconnoitred the enemy's position; and by 4 o'clock, had formed the necessary arrangements for the attack upon his capital.

Major Austin, at the head of the 12th and 33d grenadiers, and 12th Native infantry, had received his final instructions to assail the town in the rear; lieutenant-colonels Macleod of the 69th, and Campbell of the 33d, had already passed the enemy's strong position on the east of the town from the Butor to No. 5, Redoubt; lieutenant-colonel Clarges was well advanced towards the west of the town, with five companies of his majesty's 69th regiment, to force the batteries on the sea face, and lieutenant-colonel Drummond, commanding the 2d brigade, had reinforced, with the royal marines of his brigade, the position so gallantly maintained by the first brigade, on the west of the river St. Dennis.

Through the exertions of major Taynton, commanding the artillery, and of captain Mackintosh of the Bombay artillery, assisted by lieut.-colonel Clarges of the 69th regiment, and lieutenant Lanthern of his Majesty's ship La Nereide, commanding a party of fifty seamen, I was enabled to get forward two field pieces, and one four and half inch howitzer, which were descending the mountain, and would have been in action, in less than half an hour. This would have insured the result of the premeditated attack, or, in the event of any disaster, secured our retreat, which latter was, in my opinion, next to an impossibility.

Affairs were thus situated, when I received a message from the left, the enemy had sent out a trumpeter, with an officer, to demand a suspension of arms, and on honorable terms to surrender the whole island.

There was not a moment to be lost in having an enemy completely in our power, and I accordingly issued immediate orders for the troops to halt.

I should have mentioned I had detached captain Hanna with two companies of his Majesty's 1st battalion of the 56th regiment, to La Possession, the batteries of which place he took by assault, in the most gallant manner.

Thus, Sir, in a few hours has this rich, extensive, and valuable colony, been added to his gracious Majesty's dominions, with a population of upwards of 100,000 souls, and with a loss on our part, comparatively trifling, when the nature of the service is considered. A return of which, (No. 2.) accompanies this dispatch, with a copy of the capitulation. (No 3.)

The whole of the service has been conducted so completely to my satisfaction, that where praise is the just claim of all, it may be considered invidious to select. However, the truly military style, and rapidity of the movements of the first brigade, calls for my unqualified thanks to lieut.-colonel Fraser, and the officers and men under his command. The same is equally due to lieut.-colonels Macleod and Campbell, and the troops under their orders, who landed under the greatest difficulties, opposed by the weather, and an almost inaccessible beach.

My thanks are further due to lieut.-colonel Macleod, for the gallant manner in which he took possession of the batteries of St. Marie.

To lieut.-colonel Drummond, commanding the 2d brigade, the service is

much indebted, for the rapid and effectual support which he gave to the 1st brigade. Nor can I withhold my approbation of the conduct of lieut. Cottle, of the royal marines, who, with the detachment under his command, acted with the usual intrepidity of that corps.

I am well aware that I cannot add to the well-earned fame of commodore Rowley, commanding his Majesty's squadron, whose merit as an officer is well known, and duly appreciated, but I shall ever feel grateful for the cordiality with which he has co-operated with me throughout this service. And as far as the success of the expedition depended upon the naval arrangement, the praise is unquestionably due to him.

To captains Pym, Lambert, Curtis, and Willoughby, of the royal navy, commanding the frigates mentioned in the first part of this dispatch, the army is infinitely indebted for its effectual and speedy debarkation. To captain Willoughby, who more immediately superintended the landing to windward, and who served on shore with a party of seamen, my thanks are particularly due, as also to lieutenants Robb and Lloyd, (I take this opportunity of stating, that the latter officer was severely wounded on the 21st of September last, when gallantly leading on a party of seamen; but in the hurry of my dispatch of that date, his name was omitted,) of his Majesty's ship *Boadicea*, Chudds of the Iphigenia, and Lanham of the *Nereide*. I must likewise take this opportunity of expressing my approbation of the conduct of lieutenant Pye, of the royal marines, who was wounded while under my command, on the 21st of September last.

The commanding officers of corps and detachments, the heads of departments, and the whole of the staff, have merited my warmest approbation. Captain Parkinson of His Majesty's 33rd regiment, and deputy adjutant-general, commands my particular thanks, not only for the conduct of his own immediate department, but for the active assistance which he afforded me, wherever required.

Major Vernon, the deputy quarter master general, has also my thanks for his zeal and attention.

To captain Barry, who acted as my aid-de-camp, I am likewise much indebted for the assistance which I received from him during this service. Nor can I pass over unnoticed, the zeal and activity manifested by lieutenant Blackstone, senior officer of engineers upon this occasion---As also that of captain Snow, commissary of provisions, who commanded 2d battalion of the 12th regiment of Native infantry, from the time of its landing until the immediate service was over.

The judicious arrangements of doctor Harris, superintending surgeon, claim favourable notice; as does also the zeal and attention of Mr. Surgeon Davies, of the Bombay establishment.

The troops without exception, his majesty's and the honourable company's, the royal marines and seamen, conducted themselves with that courage and energy so truly characteristic of British soldiers.

I have only to regret that the nature of the service was such as to preclude the possibility of equally employing all the troops, as I am well assured that, under any circumstance of service, their gallantry and good conduct would be conspicuous.

On the 9th, agreeable to his lordship's orders, Mr. Farquhar was sworn in governor of this colony and its dependencies, at which ceremony, commodore Rowley and myself attended.

I am fully satisfied that the mild and conciliatory manners of Mr. Farquhar, added to the protection which British laws afford, equally to all, will speedily have the effect of placing this Island in the most flourishing condition, by shewing to the inhabitants, the difference between a just government, and that tyranny and oppression from which they have been relieved.

Lieutenant-colonel Campbell, with the flank brigade, was dispatched on the 10th, for St. Paul's, which place he immediately occupied, causing fifteen hundred of the enemy, composed of troops of the line, guard

national, creole Militia, &c. to surrender their arms.

I have deemed it proper for the present, to divide the island into two districts, north east, and south west, in order to facilitate the distribution of the troops to the different out-posts; and I have the satisfaction to say, that those arrangements have been already effected.

Lieutenant-colonel Campbell, of his Majesty's thirty-third regiment, is the bearer of this dispatch, to whom, as an intelligent and valuable officer, I beg leave to refer his lordship for every particular.

I have likewise thought it necessary to transmit a copy of this dispatch direct to England, for the information of H. M.'s ministers, and have accordingly ordered on that duty, captain Parkinson, of H. M. thirty-third regiment, and deputy-adjutant-general, an intelligent and experienced officer, of sixteen years standing in the service, and to whom, as I have already stated in the body of my letter, I am much indebted.

I have the honour to be, Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. S. Keating.

Lieut. Col. Comdg.

Head-quarters, St. Paul's,
Isle of Bourbon, 21st July, 1810.

Secret and Confidential.

General instructions and directions for officers, commanding brigades, by lieutenant-colonel Keating, commanding a detachment of troops, proceeding against the Island of Bourbon.

Camp at Rodrigues, July 1, 1810.

The present armament is directed towards obtaining possession of the Isle of Bourbon, in the name of his gracious majesty king George the Third.

The enemy's force on the Island, is as follows:

Dress.—Artillery, blue. Troops of Line, Green. Regular troops of the line, including artillery	576
Blue.—A new raised corps of riflemen, composed of young Creoles	417
White with blue facings.—Militia Creoles, and men of colour	2,300

The disposition of the above force is as follows.

At St. Dennis.—Troops of the line	190
Guard national	891
Creole riflemen	286
Mounted men	25
At St. Paul's.—Troops of the Line	116
Guard national	250
Creole riflemen	131
Creole Militia	350

The remaining 2,460 men, are detached in the nine following districts, viz.

St. Leu	437
St Louis	168
St. Pieiro, now called Riv d'Abordo.	437
St. Joseph	261
St. Rose	340
St. Benoit	417
St. Andre	204
St Suzaune	86
St. Marie	57

The enemy reckons upon our landing in the south or east of the island, and making regular advances against St. Dennis and St. Paul's.

Were such a measure pursued in the reduction of the island, our loss must be very severe, and success very doubtful, arising from the natural strength of the country, and the exposing our force to the fire of their marksmen, without being able to return a shot. But these are not all the advantages which the enemy would derive, and no doubt reap from our landing at any distance from their capital, such a measure would give them time to collect and concentrate their force, which at St. Dennis, they can in two days reinforce to 2,347 men, leaving St. Paul's and the south-west side of the island secure and garrisoned with 1,870 men.

In order to ensure the object of this expedition, with the least possible loss to the force which has been placed under my orders and direction, it is my determination to strike the first blow at the very heart of the enemy, and having dispossessed him of his capital, our further operations must be guided by his future discomfiture and disposition.

The following plan of attack is laid down for the guidance and regulation of the officers commanding brigades, from whose tried zeal, experience, and judgment, I expect his majesty's and

the honourable company's arms, shall be crowned with the most complete success. I expect as much from the discipline of the troops as I do from their known bravery and courage.

By the orders of the 26th ultimo, the force is told off into four brigades, and, in concert with commodore Rowley, apportioned to his majesty's frigates for the purpose of accelerating their debarkations.

The first brigade, commanded by lieutenant-colonel Fraser; second brigade, by lieutenant-colonel Drummond; third brigade, or Reserve, by lieutenant-colonel Mc Leod; fourth brigade, or the advance, by lieutenant-colonel Campbell.

It is intended that the landing shall be effected during the night, if possible, between St. Marie's, and the Butor, at the nearest practicable point to the enemy's capital.

The fourth brigade, or the advance, under lieutenant-colonel Campbell, is first to land from his majesty ship La Nereide; the third brigade, or the reserve, under lieutenant-colonel Mc Leod, is next to land from his majesty's ships Boadicea and Iphigenia; the first brigade under lieutenant-colonel Fraser, on board his majesty's ship Magicienne, is to land and form the rear column; the second brigade, under lieutenant-colonel Drummond, on board his majesty's ship Sirius, is to land at Possession.

The defences of St. Dennis down to the third June last, are clearly laid down in the plan of the town, a copy of which is to be furnished to the officers commanding brigades, and to the principal staff officers; in addition to this plan there are two guides of tried fidelity attached to each column.

When the fourth brigade is landed, lieutenant-colonel Campbell will order his light troops with half the artillery men to move forward left in front, sending forward a subaltern and twenty men in their front until they arrive near the Butor, when they are to take a direction towards their left, crossing Butor half a mile to the southward of the road higher up which will bring them in the rear of the Butor redoubt of four guns, marked No. nine, in the plan of the town. Six artillery men, with a small covering party are to occupy this work, pointing and working the guns towards the rear and west of the town as occasion may require. The post where are two guns, marked No. ten, in the plan of the town, is to be occupied by one subaltern and sixteen men, the remainder of the light troops are to proceed by the rear and south of the town, they are to occupy the houses of the commandant, marked L, in the plan of the town, with one subaltern and twenty men, which commands the Rue Artillery; the light infantry are then to proceed towards the west of the town, crossing the river St. Dennis, about half a mile to the southward of the bridge, and to spike the guns on the batteries numbered seven and eight, in the plan of attack: the light troops are then to take up a position west of the river St. Dennis, fronting the town with a view to prevent the enemy from re-inforcing Possession or St. Paul's, on escaping from the town. The officer commanding the light troops must attend particularly to the prison marked H. in the plan of attack, where there are two guns, and a guard of twenty men.

Lieutenant-colonel Campbell, after crossing the Butor, will leave the Butor redoubt upon his left, detaching small parties to spike the guns upon the batteries, Nos. four and three. The commanding officer recommends that the guns upon battery No. two, shall be manned ready, and support the storming party told off for No. one, royal battery, which is the main post, and lieutenant-colonel Campbell is ordered to occupy it until the guns are spiked, and then proceed to battery No. five. The enemy have in the town, and at No. six, on the beach, eight field pieces, four pounders, which they can bring to any point in a short period of time, therefore the attention and movement of lieutenant-colonel Campbell's brigade must be directed according to the distribution of those guns. It may be unnecessary to order that wherever those guns appear,

the nearest troops to them, are to take possession of them. --- The batteries on the sea face being spiked, lieutenant-colonel Campbell, will occupy with his brigade, the position which his light troops are already formed on, to the west of the town.

The third brigade, or the reserve, under lieutenant-colonel M'Leod, after landing, are to advance towards the enemy's capital, by the road leading from St. Marie, preserving a distance of two hundred yards or thereabouts. From the fourth brigade, lieutenant colonel M'Leod, will be pleased to detach one company to support the movements of the light troops of the advance, and also one company to support the right of the fourth brigade, under lieutenant-colonel Campbell. The movements of the third brigade must depend much upon the defence made by the enemy, and the assistance required by the fourth brigade. The commanding officer is, however, confident, that whatever be the defence of the enemy, or the difficulties presented, they will be soon overcome by the reserve, and the other brigade, conducted by leaders of such experience and judgment.

Lieutenant-colonel Campbell's brigade, having succeeded in spiking the guns, on the batteries towards the sea face, and taken up its position on the western side of the town, lieutenant-colonel M'Leod's brigade will form in the rear and south of the town, taking care that its rear is protected.

The first brigade under lieutenant-colonel Fraser, is to form the rear column and follow the motions of the third brigade at the distance of three hundred yards. Lieut.-col. Fraser will be pleased to detach one company to support the left of the reserve, and he shall receive such other order, from time to time, as may most tend to insure the effect of the attack.

His brigade is to form close to the town, with its rear towards the Butor.

The second brigade, under lieutenant colonel Drummond, is to occupy the batteries at Possession, and inverting the guns from the sea, is to direct them against the enemy as occasion offers; having performed this duty, lieutenant-colonel Drummond is ordered to post his brigade on the strongest ground that the place will admit of, contiguous to his battery, from whence his guns can have influence upon the advancing enemy.

The first brigade shall be immediately embarked at Saint Dennis, for the purpose of reinforcing the second; and lieutenant-colonel Fraser shall be furnished with the necessary instruction for his future operations on the Possession side of Saint Paul's. The deputy quarter-master-general is directed to give the necessary instruction to the agent of transports that eight six pounders complete, and twenty artillerymen, as also the remainder of the second brigade with the fifty pioneers attached, are embarked on some ship, which is to stand in direct for Possession, following H. M.'s frigate Sirius. It is very desirable that lieutenant-colonel Drummond should detach a small force on his left, towards St. Dennis, in order to guard the strong pass over La Petite Chaloupe, and it is also desirable, that he should destroy all signal posts within his reach, but at the same time to guard against any of his parties being cut off from their first position.

Should the light troops of the advance arrive at the Butor without being discovered, which is not to be expected, the guard-house on the west of the Butor, marked No. 11, should be the first object. They are then to enter the Butor Redoubt by the rear, which is open, paying particular attention in guarding against a very deep ditch, which is dug in front of the west, north, and south faces; the battery should be the next object.

The commanding officer fully expects that major Taynton will use every possible exertion to insure the service of the four $4\frac{1}{2}$ inch howitzers at the first attack on the enemy's capital; they are to be supported by two six pounders from the Madras brigade, and the two Bombay six- pounders under captain Mackintosh, who will be attached to major Taynton's brigade. The mounted men attached to the artillery, are to be in readiness to

land and act as dragoons or gunners, according to circumstances.

The troops are to land with one day's provision and grog,---the men are not to load upon any account or under any pretence, without orders from the officers commanding brigades; every thing during the night, or before day light, is to be carried by the bayonet.

The commanding officer, however, wishes it to be understood, that the troops are to load at day-light, should brigadiers judge such a measure necessary.

The lieutenant-colonel can assure the detachment, that nothing but a perfect knowledge of the nature of the country, and the mode of defence which the enemy are prepared to make, could induce him to authorize a shot to be fired. The French upon the isles of France and Bourbon can never be persuaded to stand English bayonets, they are trained to a different system of defence by firing from behind walls and houses, and from the opposite sides of impassable ravines. The troops are ordered not to enter the town upon any account, unless such a measure should appear necessary during the morning---the commanding officer vests the brigadiers with discretionary powers upon this head.

Any person detected plundering or with plunder in his possession, shall be tried and punished according to the rules of war.

The least drunkenness or other irregularity in the troops, shall be punished in the most severe manner. Parole and countersign for the morning of landing. Parole---navy---C. Sign---Army.

By order of the officer commanding the detachment.

(Signed) E. PARKINSON,
Deputy Adjutant-General.

The information received by H. M.'s ship La Nereide, which arrived yesterday afternoon from off the isle of Bourbon, renders the following change of disposition and additional instructions to officers commanding brigades necessary.

Camp at Rodrigues, July 2, 1810.

The Europeans of the 1st brigade are to be in readiness to embark on board H. M.'s ship Sirius for Grand Chaloupe---The remainder of this brigade to be moved on board the two fastest sailing transports, which are to follow the Sirius.

Lieutenant-colonel Drummond's brigade is to embark on board H. M's. ship Magicienne, and to follow the directions laid down in the plan of attack for the 1st brigade.

This arrangement consequently does away for the present that part of the plan of the movements of the 3d brigade at Possession.

Lieutenant-colonel Fraser after landing at Grand Chaloupe, will immediately push on to gain the prison marked H. on the plan of attack; after manning the two guns on this post, he is to employ them against the enemy in attempting to retire from the town, or otherwise, as occasion may require. Lieut.-col. Fraser is directed to detach a sufficient force to spike the guns on the batteries marked 7 and 8,---He is there to take up the position pointed out in the plan of attack, for lieut.-colonel Campbell's brigade. Lieut.-colonel Fraser is to make a forced march from the point of debarkation to the point of attack; the commanding officer does not expect he will be opposed by any number of the enemy, that his light companies, and the 4½ inch howitzer are not more than equal to---But at all events, the orders are positive for lieutenant-colonel Fraser to occupy, with H. M.'s 86th regiment, the two guns battery at the prison, to spike the guns on the batteries 7 and 8, in the plan of attack, in the shortest time possible after landing:---there are two approved guides attached to the 1st brigade under lieutenant-colonel Fraser.

Should, contrary to my expectations, this attempt to gain the one on the west-side of the redt. St. Dennis fail, lieutenant-colonel Fraser will either take up a strong position, keeping open a communication with H. M.'s ship *Sirius*, until reinforced, to retire and embark at once. Should such a measure appear, in concert with the senior

officer of H. M.'s navy then present necessary.

The light troops of the advance, after crossing the Butor, are to occupy the post with two guns marked 10, on the plan of attack, and afterwards the Butor Redoubt marked 9,---they are then to receive further orders from lieutenant-colonel Campbell.

The officers commanding brigades are requested to make application to the commanding officer for explanation, upon any head of the plan of attack, which they may consider requisite.

By order of the officer commanding,
(Signed) E. PARKINSON,
Dep. adj. gen.

DETACHMENT ORDERS.

H. M.'s S. Boadicea, at Sea, July 6.

The commanding officer expects that the character of British soldiers, which has ever been distinguished for humanity to a vanquished enemy, will be as conspicuous on the present service, as it has been in every other in which they have been engaged.

Corps to land with their colours.

In the event of the remainder of H. M.'s ships not making their appearance, the 4th, or flank brigade, will follow the directions laid down in the plan of attack for the 1st brigade; the 3d brigade, those of the 4th, and the 2d brigade, those of the 3d.

(Signed) By order,
E. PARKINSON,
Dep. adj. gen.

A True copy,
E. PARKINSON,
Dep. adj. gen.

List of officers killed and wounded.

FLANK CORPS.

Lieutenant Spinks, slightly wounded.
Lieutenant Whannell, ditto. ditto.

H M.'s 86th REGIMENT.

Lieutenant John Graham Munro, killed.
Major W. T. Edwards, slightly wounded.
Lieutenant Michael Creagh, * dangerously, ditto.
Lieut. Archibald McLean, severely, ditto.
Lieutenant A. K. Blackwall, ditto, ditto.
Lieutenant John Webb, slightly, ditto
Lieutenant W. Richard White, severely, ditto.

E. PARKINSON, Captain,
Dep. adj.-gen. to the forces.

* Major of brigade to lieut.-colonel Fraser's brigade.

Return of killed and wounded in the detachment commanded by lieut.-colonel Keating, at the attack on Saint Denis, in the Island of Bourbon, the 8th of July, 1810.

KILLED.

1st Brigade. — Detachment of artillery, none; H. M.'s 86th regiment, 1 subaltern, 1 serjeant, 9 rank and file. Detachment 1st battalion, 6th regiment native infantry, 1 rank and file. Detachment pioneers, 1 rank and file.

2d Brigade.—Royal Marines, 1 rank and file; 2d battalion, 12th regiment native infantry, none.

3d Brigade.—H.M.'s 69th regiment, 2 rank and file; Bombay detachment native infantry, none.

4th Brigade. — Flank corps, 1 rank and file: detachment H. M.'s 56th regiment, 1 rank and file; pioneers, none.

Total, killed,.........18.

WOUNDED.

1stBrigade.—Detachment art. none; H.M.'s 86th reg. 1 major, 5 subalterns, 2 serjeants, 2 drummers, 47 rank and file; detachment 1st battalion, 6th regiment native infantry, 7 rank and file; detachment pioneers, none.

2d Brigade.—Royal Marines, none; 2d battalion, 17th regiment native infantry, none.

3dBrigade.—H. M.'s 69thregiment, none; Bombay detachment native infantry, none.

4th Brigade. — Flank corps, 2 subalterns, 5 rank and file, 5 seamen; detachment His Majesty's 56th regiment, 3 rank and file; pioneers, 4 rank and file.

Total, wounded,.........79.

E. PARKINSON, Captain,
Dep. adjt.-gen. to the forces.

N B —Captain Lambert, of the Madras establishment, slightly wounded

Two rank and file of his Majesty's 86th regiment died of their wounds since the 8th instant, included in the list of wounded.

One private of His Majesty's 56th regiment, since dead of his wounds.

Capitulation for the surrender of Saint Denis, the capital, and the whole Island of Buonaparte, agreed upon between colonel Saint Lusanne, commanding the Island of Buonaparte, for his Majesty the Emperor of France, King of Italy, &c. on the one hand; and commodore Rowley, commanding his Britannic Majesty's squadron; lieutenant-colonel Keating, commanding his Britannic Majesty's, and the honourable company's land forces, and R. W. Farquhar, Esq.

The whole of the island of Buonaparte, shall be delivered up to his Britannic majesty; the city of St. Denis, at 12 o'clock to-morrow, the

9th of July, and the other military stations in succession, as early as intelligence of the present capitulation can be communicated.

At twelve o'clock to-morrow, the French troops which occupy the arsenal and imperial battery, shall evacuate their posts, and the grenadier company of his majesty's 86th regiment, and the grenadiers of the 6th Madras Native regiment, will take possession of them, when the French flag shall be struck, and that of his Britannic majesty displayed.

The troops of the line, and *Guarde Nationale* shall be allowed all the honours of war. They shall march out of the city with their arms and baggage, drums beating, matches lighted, together with their field artillery. They are to lay down their arms on the sea face in front of the imperial battery. The troops of the line are to surrender themselves prisoners of war, and to be embarked as such, for the Cape of Good Hope, or for England.

In consideration of the distinguished character of colonel St. Lusanne and his officers, and of their gallant defence of the place, the officers of all ranks are allowed to preserve their swords and military decorations. They are to continue prisoners of war, and to embark for the Cape, or for England. Colonel St. Lusanne, and his family, shall be allowed a passage to the Isle of France, upon his giving his parole of honour, not to serve during the war, or till he be regularly exchanged.

Funeral honours shall be paid to the French officers, who have fallen in battle, according to their respective ranks.

An inventory shall be made of property of all description belonging to the state, which shall be delivered over to the person appointed by the English government to receive it.

All warlike stores, magazines, and provisions, charts, plans, and archives, are included in this article.

The laws of customs, and religion of the inhabitants, as well as their private property of all description, shall be respected and insured to them.

Done at St. Denis, the 9th July, 1810, at 6 o'clock, P. M.

(Signed) SAINT LUSANNE,
Colonel Commandant d'Isle Bonaparte, pour sa Majeste, L'Empereur des Francois, Roi d'Italie, protecteur, &c. la confederation, &c.

(Signed) JOSIAS ROWLEY,
Commanding His Britannic Majesty's squadron.

(Signed) H. S. KEATING,
Lieut.-colonel commanding.

(Signed) R. T. FARQUAHAR,
A true copy.

CHAS. H. J. PEARCE,
Major of Brigade.

General list of the Ordnance and principal articles of Military Stores, found in the magazine and adjacent batteries of the town of St. Denis, on the capture of the Island of Bourbon, by his Britannic Majesty's and the honourable East India Company's forces, under the command of colonel Keating.

Head Quarters, St. Paul's, 20th July, 1810.

Ordnance and Military Stores, captured at St. Denis.

Guns, iron, 24 pounders, No. 22.—Ditto ditto, 18 ditto, No. 14. — Ditto, ditto, 12 ditto, No. 16.—Ditto, ditto, 8 ditto, No. 6. —Ditto, ditto, 4 ditto, No. 3.—Mounted on garrison carriages.

Ditto, brass, 24 ditto, No. 2.—Ditto, ditto, 4 ditto, No. 1.—Ditto, ditto, 4 ditto, No. 1. —Dismounted Cannon.

Mortars, iron, 12 inch, No. 2.—Ditto, ditto, 6 ditto, No. 1 —Ditto, Cohorns, No. 2.—Mounted on Boxes.

Total Ordnance 89.

Shot, round loose of calibres, 11,268.—Do. case of do. 1,055 —Do. grape quilted, and cannister, 225 —Cartridges, gun cloth filled, of calibres, 1,100.—Gun powder, pounds, 190,000.—Muskets and fuzils, with bayonets, 417.—Cartridges, shotted musket, rounds 80,000. — Balls, leaden, musket, 6,500.—Do. do. 900.—Flints, musket, 6,200 —Blunderbusses, brass, 5.—Wall pieces Iron, 6.—Pikes, boarding, 172.—Cutlasses 8.—Tomahawks 70.

The town of St. Denis is furnished with an excellent powder magazine and store houses containing the necessary appurtenances for the above mentioned ordinance, and small arms; there are several forges, artificers workshops, and a laboratory, replete with the requisite tools, implements, &c. of

which a detailed account will be given hereafter, as soon as time will admit.

Ordnance and Military stores, captured at St. Paul's.

ORDNANCE.

Guns, iron, 24 prs. No. 19.—Do. do. 18 do. No. 10 —Do. do 12 do. No. 10 —Do. do. 9 do No. 1.—Do. do. 8 do. No. 1.—Mounted on garrison carriages.

Do. brass 6 do No. 1.—Do. do. 4 do. No. 1 —Do. do 3 do. No. 2.—Mounted on field carriages with limber.

Do. do. 18 do. No. 7.—dismounted.

Mortars, iron 13 inch. No. 2.—Do. do. 5½ do. No. 1.—Do. do. 6 do. No. 1.—Mounted on boxes.

Total Ordnance 56.

Shot, round loose, calibres, 1,000.—Do. grape quilted and canister, 150.—Shells empty, of calibres, 80.—Cartridges, gun, filled of do. 550—Gun powder, pounds 5,000.—Muskets, and Fuzils with bayonets, 462.—Cartridges, shotted, musket, rounds 13,000.—Flints, musket, 500.

N. B. In the town of St. Denis, and St. Paul's, there were found ordnance of different calibres, 145, and 462 stand of arms, the lists of the guns and stores, at the other districts of Bourbon, have not yet been received, but a committee is now employed in taking an account of them, and a particular return of the several articles, will be forwarded with all practicable dispatch.

D. ROSS,
Commissary of Stores
to the Expedition.

A list of Vessels, captured in the bay of St. Paul's, by His Majesty's squadron, on the 11th of July, 1810.

Lottery—French privateer schooner, of 30 tons, in ballast.

Buchanan—English brig, of 260 tons, in ballast, taken on the coast of Sumatra by the *Lottery*.

Welcome Return—American brig, of 230 tons, in ballast, do. do.

Malayan—French government schooner, of 15 tons, in ballast, with three other small boats claimed as private property.

REID and STOWE,
Prize Agents.

Detachment orders, head quarters, St. Denis, 9th July, 1810.

PAROLE ROWLEY,

It is not possible for the commanding officer to be sufficiently expressive in returning his thanks to the several brigades for their steadiness and discipline since their landing under the most trying circumstances. It is, however, particularly due to the first brigade under the command of lieutenant-colonel Fraser to notice their gallantry before the enemy yesterday morning, in taking possession of the important posts on the west side of the river St. Denis, and in maintaining their position against the enemy with all the advantages which he possessed.

To lieutenant-colonel M'Leod, and the troops under his orders, at the attack on St. Marie, the commanding officer considers much credit due for the activity with which that post was taken possession of.

The commanding officer is much obliged to the officers of the staff of the detachment, as well as to such others as are personally attached to himself, for their activity in performing the different duties with which they were charged.

The commanding officer requests that officers commanding brigades, will pay the strictest attention to the discipline of the troops under their orders; and they will be particularly careful that their arms, &c. are in the most perfect order at all times.

The fourth brigade, under lieut.-colonel Campbell, to embark immediately for St. Paul's.

The third brigade under lieutenant-colonel M'Leod, will embark tomorrow at such hour as may be hereafter pointed out.

The first brigade under Lieutenant-colonel Fraser will occupy St. Denis, and will do the duty of the garrison until further orders.

The detachment of Bombay artillery will immediately embark for St. Paul's.

The whole of the Madras artillery to remain at St. Denis, until further orders.

Returns of casualities with present state to be sent in by the different brigades, to the deputy-adjutant-general's office, without delay.—Monthly returns of corps, &c. for June, to be likewise sent in as soon as they can be prepared.

The commissaries of stores, and of grain and provisions, and the senior officer of engineers, to send in immediately to the deputy quarter-master-general, returns of the stores, provisions, &c. &c. in their several departments, respectively, which have been captured at St. Denis, as also the stores, &c. remaining from those originally embarked with the force.

Captain Elliot, of the 5th Bombay Native Infantry, is appointed deputy barrack master general to the Island of Bourbon; lieutenant Dean, of H. M's. 89th regiment, is appointed assistant to captain Elliot in that department.

A salute of seventeen guns will be immediately fired from the royal battery, upon Mr. Farquhar being sworn in as the governor of the Island of Bourbon and its dependencies.

By order of the officer commanding,

(Signed) E. Parkinson, D. A. G.

General orders, by the right honourable the governor-general in council, under date the 24th August, 1810.

The Right Honourable the Governor-General in Council derives the highest satisfaction from the annexation of the valuable Island of Bourbon to the dominions of H. M. and deems it proper to express in general orders, the high sense which he entertains of the distinguished merits of the officers and troops, by whose galantry and exertions, assisted by the squadron under command of Commodore Rowley, this important conquest has been achieved.

The diligence and activity manifested by lieutenant-colonel Keating, in obtaining the most accurate and detailed information, relative to the condition and defences of the Island, the nature of the country, and the extent and distribution of the enemy's force; the professional skill and judgment displayed in the plan of attack, which that information enabled him to form, and energy and ability of that meritorious and gallant officer, in directing and superintending the operations of the force, under his orders, demand the expression of his lordship in council's distinguished approbation and applause.

The testimony afforded by lieutenant-colonel Keating, to the peculiar gallantry and exertions of the officers specified in his dispatch, is in the highest degree honourable to them, and the governor-general in council desires to add to the sentiments expressed by lieutenant-colonel Keating, a public record of the estimation in which their individual merits and services, on this occasion, are held by his lordship in council.

The governor-general in council further discharges a satisfactory obligation of his public duty, in declaring his acknowledgments, generally, to the officers and men, composing the force employed in the reduction of the Isle of Bourbon, for the successful exertion of those characteristic qualities of zeal, courage, and perseverance, which have achieved a conquest so highly important and advantageous to the national interests.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief. Sect. to Govt.

To lieutenant-colonel Hastings Fraser, commanding the 1st brigade, &c. &c. &c.

Sir, *St. Denis.*

The officers of his majesty's 86th regiment, deeply impressed with a sense of your gallant conduct in the action of the 8th inst. and its glorious result; and your kind and humane attention to the wounded, beg leave to request your acceptance of a sword of the value of one hundred guineas, which we are deputed to present to you in the name of the corps, as a trifling mark of their esteem, gratitude, and respect.

We have the honour to be, Sir,
Your most obedient
humble servants,
W. T. Edwards,
Major 86th regt.
and commanding.
T. Lampier,
Captain 86th regt.
David Morrice,
Captain 86th regt.

St. Denis, July 10, 1810.

St. Denis, July 10, 1810.

GENTLEMEN,---I am this moment honoured with your letter of this date, conveying to me the sentiments of esteem and approbation of my conduct on the 8th instant, by the officers of the 86th regiment.

The glorious result of that day was the consequence of the bravery and discipline of the corps, and the able support I derived from the zeal, judgment, and ardent valour of every officer of the regiment; it was my ofrtunate lot only to have the honor ofcommanding so distinguished a corps.

I accept with gratitude your highly-valued present of a sword, and will through life preserve it as my proudest trophy.

With sentiments of esteem, respect, and gratitude,

I have the honour to be, &c.

HASTINGS FRASER,
Lieut.-colonel 86th regiment.

To Major Edwards, &c. &c.

BENGAL
Occurrences for September.

SEPT. 5.—On Saturday last, the two volunteer battalions of Sepoys received their colours at Barrackpore, from the hands of lord Minto. In the evening, major Burton and captain Lumley, commanding the two battalions, and the officers of both corps, were entertained by his lordship at the park.

SEPT. 7.—Late letters, received from China, give the satisfactory information of the extinction of the late formidable system of piracy, which long had bade defiance to the government, had carried terror to the very heart of the empire, and visited its shores with rapine, pillage, murder, and every species of outrage. The weak, miserable government of China, despairing of being ever able by any application of their own forces to restrain, far less to overcome, the piratical fleets, found it necessary to resort to the Portuguese at Macao, to whose exertions they are indebted for the overthrow of a power, that menaced the safety and existence of their government. A particular account of the interference of the Portuguese, and of their operations against the pirates, has been transmitted by a gentleman resident at Macao, a summary of which may perhaps be acceptable to a part of our readers.

"At length the government of Canton frankly acknowledged their inability to subdue the pirates, whose fleets amounted to between 3 and 400 war boats or junks, armed with from 12 to 20 guns each, and from 50 to 200 men, infesting the sea-coast and canals that water this province; carrying on a perpetual warfare against the peace and propertyofthe inhabitants, both on shore and afloat: no vessel could trade upon the coast with safety. The pirates frequently landed, and laid contributions upon the towns and villages; and after plundering the inhabitants, set fire to their houses. Their steps were marked with wanton barbarity, sparing neither age nor sex; old men and women, and children, were indiscriminately butchered. These enormities called for the exertions of the Chinese government: a fleet of upwards of 40 sail of junks, carrying from 14 to 20 guns each, were equipped, and sent in pursuit of the rebel fleets; but upon the very first rencontre, 28 of the Imperial war junks struck to the pirates, and the rest saved themselves by a precipitate flight.

"The success of the pirates had the effect of increasing their numbers; fishermen and others flocked to their standard in crowds. One division of their fleet attacked and carried an American schooner, and they would have made prize of a much larger vessel under the same colours, had she not run for shelter under the guns of the fort of Macao. The usual intercourse between Macao and Canton was interrupted by the pirate boats, which frequently blockaded the different passages, to the great detriment of a valuable branch of commerce.

"Added to all this, Canton itself was threatened with serious danger; and the pirates went so far as to declare their resolution to displace the present Tartar family from the throne of China

and to restore the empire of the ancient Chinese dynasty. This menace, and the growing strength of the rebels, operated with full force on the fears of the Chinese government, and the viceroy of Canton hastened to conclude a convention with the city of Macao, for the destruction of the rebel fleet. The following are the articles of this convention:

'His excellency the viceroy of the two provinces of Quangtong and Quangsi, and governor of the city of Macao, being equally convinced of the necessity of putting an end to the depredation of the pirates of China, who without fear infest the seas bordering on the two cities of Canton and Macao; and thereby to restore public tranquillity, and security to the trade and navigation of those parts, have mutually resolved to conclude a convention for equipping a *garda costa*, or cruizing squadron, to be manned by the forces of the governments. They have, for that purpose, named as their representatives; viz. his excellency the viceroy of Canton, nominates three mandarins, (whose names and titles are set forth at full length in the original;) and the government of Macao names as its representatives, Miguel de Arriga Brum de Silveira, Dezembergador Ouvidor, or chief judge at Macao, Knight of Christ, and Joze Joacquim de Barros, Capitao Mor do Campo, knight of Christ, and actual procurador of the senate, who after having exchanged their respective full powers, have concluded and agreed upon the following articles:

'Art. 1.—There shall be immediately established a *garda costa*, consisting of six Portuguese armed vessels, united with an imperial squadron, which shall cruize for the term of six months from the Bog, (*Bocado do Tigre*) to this city; and from this city to Hiansang through the gulf, in order to prevent the pirates from entering the canals which hitherto they have chiefly infested, exercising every cruelty and the most horrible devastations, in the villages and towns on the sea-shore.

'Art. 2.—The Chinese government agrees to pay the sum of eighty thousand taels towards defraying the expences of the Portuguese ships. It shall not be permitted to retract the fulfilment of this article, should the intended expedition from any unexpected cause be defeated.

'Art. 3.—The government of Macao shall equip, with men, arms, ammunition, &c. the six vessels above-stipulated, with all practicable dispatch.

'Art. 4.—Both governments, and their respective forces, employed on this service, shall mutually co-operate with each other, in promoting the object they have both in view.

'Art. 5.—All prizes, taken from the pirates by the combined forces, shall be equally divided between the Portuguese and imperial squadron.

'Art. 6.—When the object of the expedition is attained, all the ancient privileges of Macao shall be restored to it.

'Art. 7.—This convention is to be considered as ratified by the signature of the subscribing parties, in virtue of their full powers.

In faith whereof we have signed these presents, and caused the seals of our arms to be affixed thereto.

Done at Macao, this 23rd day of November, 1809.

Miguel de Arriga Brom da Silviera.
Joze Joaquim de Barros

Sealed by the Mandarins, { Shin-Kei-Chi, Ches, Pom.

"No sooner was the convention signed, than the distinguished zeal and activity of the Dizembargador Ouvidor, Miguel de Arriga Brom de Silveira, were successfully called into action. The government was unprovided with the requisite number of ships, officers, seamen, stores and provisions; yet such were the exertions of the Dizembargador, that in the course of five days, he had six vessels taken up, and as completely equipped as the resources of Macao would admit. The following is a list of the names and number of men and guns, of the different vessels employed, all which were placed under the command in chief of Joze Pinto al Conforoado d'Azevido e Souza, captain of artillery:

Names,	Guns,	Men.
Inconquistavel	26	160
Palla	18	130
Indiana	24	120
Bellisario	18	120
St. Miguel	16	100
Brig Princess Carlotta	16	100
TOTAL	118	730.

"The chief deficiency of this little squadron was in shot and other naval stores. Application was made for a supply of those essential articles, to the honourable East India company's supra cargoes, at Canton. The select committee acquiesced in the request, and the requisite stores, ammunition, &c. were supplied from the company's ships, with a liberality peculiar to the English, and in conformity to the friendship and alliance subsisting between that nation and the Portuguese.

"The Macao squadron being thus enabled to put to sea in a state of complete efficiency, were joined by sixty war junks of the Imperial Chinese fleet. The pirates fled at the approach of the confederate fleet, but in many instances they were obliged to come to action; and in all these rencontres they were defeated with considerable loss: the blunt of the different actions fell upon the Portuguese, who derived little or no assistance from their allies. Harassed by this species of warfare, Qua-a-pou chay, one of the pirate chiefs, made a proposition, in the course of January last, to surrender himself and his fleet, consisting of about 100 junks and 8000 men. His terms of surrender were accepted.

"In Febuary, a negotiation was opened between the viceroy of Canton, and the pirate chiefs for their surrender, which, after some weeks was broken off. Hostilities were then renewed by the Portuguese with their former activity, and the Pirates in consequence found themselves reduced to great difficulties; they were pursued into the canals and recesses, and often forced to abandon their boats. At length, on the 12th of April, the Portuguese squadron so manœuvred, as to cut off the retreat of the grand pirate fleet, commanded by A-juo-Chay, the most daring of their leaders, who, seeing no possibility of escape, judged it prudent to treat for his surrender. Advice was instantly forwarded to the viceroy of Canton, who forthwith repaired to Hiansang, where he was met by M. Arriaga: the propositions from the pirates were fully considered. The high and honourable character of Miguel de Arriaga, commanded unbounded confidence, and both the viceroy and the pirate chiefs left to him the adjustment of the whole affair. In three days every point was settled, a general amnesty was granted to the pirates, and their whole fleet, consisting of upwards of 270 war junks, 16,000 young men, 5,000 women, armed with 1200 pieces of ordnance, besides small arms, surrendered, and were delivered up to the viceroy. Thus terminated the system of piracy, which has been the scourge of China during the last twenty years.

"On the 21st of April, Miguel Arriaga returned to Macao; and on the following day, the six Portuguese cruizers entered the harbour, amidst the acclamations of the people. Salutes were fired from the ships and forts, the bells were rung, and a Te Deum was celebrated as a thanksgiving for the happy issue of the expedition."

Sept. 8.---On Thursday evening last, the right honourable the governor-general gave a grand dinner at the government house, to the officers of the European corps proceeding on the expedition. It was attended by all the heads of offices at the presidency.

Sept. 10.— By authentic advices from Scindia's camp, dated the 19th ultimo, that chieftain is stated to have undertaken the siege of the great fortress of Narwar, a place not far distant from the British frontier. Narwar is included within Scindia's division of the Mahratta empire, and has for some time been occupied by a chieftain named Khundoojee, whom Scindia, from views of extortion, now wishes to dispossess. It is considered by much the largest and strongest fortress in that part of the country. It is situated on the summit of a square hill; and contains within its walls, a fine city, plentifully supplied with water and with every other convenient ne-

cessary for the subsistence of a garrison. The town of Narwar is situated at the bottom of the hill; and, in point of extent, is not very considerable. It appears that, on the first approach of Scindea's army, Khundoojee himself took to flight, abandoning his strong hold to the charge of a tumultuous garrison, who, immediately on his departure, became divided into different factions, headed by leaders with opposite interests and views. The fortress, if well defended, was capable of withstanding the whole Mahratta power for years; but these disorders in the garrison encouraged, in Scindea's camp, a pretty confident hope of its immediate surrender; and their influence, indeed, had already appeared, in the facility which attended the first operations of the siege; the town, though defended by a good wall and ditch, having been carried, without opposition, on the 11th, by Baptiste, at the head of the few regular battalions still remaining in Scindea's employ.

On the 18th ultimo, Scindea came in person to the quarters of the British residency, and returned Mr. Metcalf's first visit. The ceremonial was conducted, on this occasion, in the best style; and the khelat, presented by the British envoy, was received with much apparent satisfaction by the Maharajah.

Letters from Benares, of the 1st current state, that the general court martial lately assembled there had closed its proceedings on the trial of major Thompson.

Sept. 12.—Accounts from the same quarter advise, that the proceedings of the court martial held on lieutenant-colonel MacGregor, and which were forwarded to general St. Leger, the provisional commander-in-chief for approbation, had been returned to the court for revision.

Yesterday forenoon, colonel Kelso, commanding the land forces, embarked on the expedition, captain Broughton of the Illustrious, brigade-major Hall, &c. went on board the Cuthbert Thornhill schooner, and sailed immediately to join the Illustrious in Balasore roads.

Mrs. Farquahar, the lady of governor Farquahar, Mrs. Cockburn, Mrs. colonel Dalrymple, lieutenant colonel Dalrymple, and Mr. Cockburn, of the civil service, left town on Monday morning, in the government yacht, for Saugor roads, where they embarked on board one of the Indiamen, proceeding to the French islands. The party was accompanied on the yacht by the honourable Mr. Elliot, Walter Farquhar, Esq &c. &c.

Among the ordnance stores accompanying the present armament, is a very large proportion of Shrapnell shells, which promise to be well suited for a part of the expected service. One of the most efficient and best appointed corps of the colonial force at the Mauritius, is their horse artillery, upon whom the Shrapnells are calculated to act with destructive effect.

Yesterday an express arrived from Kedgeree, announcing the arrival in Saugor roads, of the ship Ann, captain Clark, from New South Wales. She brings intelligence of the further success of the British against some of the lesser Dutch settlements to the Eastward.

The Ann, on her passage from New South Wales, put into Cajete Bay, in the island of Bouro, where she found at anchor his majesty's ship Dover, captain Tucker, with a Dutch prize, which she had just captured.

Captain Tucker communicated to the commander of the Ann, the surrender of the Dutch settlements of Manaao, Gooronatolla, and Bachian, to his majesty's frigate the Dover.

Captain Tucker also stated, that the inhabitants of the island of Ternate, had expressed an earnest desire to be relieved from the Dutch government, and to be taken under the protection of the English. The people of the Island were known to have been long hostile to the Dutch; but owing to the capture of the colonial vessels by the British cruisers, they were lately reduced to such distress, from the want of grain and provisions, that they would gladly surrender at discretion to the English.

The only settlements that now re-

main to the Dutch are Java, Ternate, Tidore, and the Banda islands.

The Dover and her prize sailed from Bouro for Amboyna, on the 2d of August. The crew of the Dover were extremely sickly; and at the time of her leaving Bouro, she had upwards of 80 men on her sick list. The British garrison at Amboyna was very unhealthy; and a number of the soldiers had lately died.

Berhampore, Sept. 16.—Thursday the 13th, being the anniversary of the festival of the Bhera of the Nawaub Nazim, groupes of people were seen, as usual from sun rise till night, approaching, in all directions, the Killa, or family residence of his highness. The day began to lower, and threatened a storm; but towards the afternoon it cleared away, and closed in an evening delightfully clear and serene The multitude of spectators assembled was immense. They waited impatiently for the expected grand display of fire-works, illuminations, &c. which, according to long-established custom, have been annually exhibited on the anniversary of this festival. And, as it had been reported that the fête would be celebrated on this occasion with uncommon splendour, by the new Soubah, the attendance was more crowded than usual. But alas! all was disappointment. Expectation was balked throughout. The festival, instead of being celebrated in a manner that was to recall the remembrance of its ancient splendour, was evidently marked by neglect and inattention. Not one of the numerous Bheras, great or small, of the branches of the family on the musnud, and of other Moosulmans of rank, who on former occasions preceded the Bhera of the Soubah, and shed a blaze of light along the course of the river, that was seen at the distance of many miles: not one of those were present on this occasion. It was not till late, and after a tedious delay, that his highness's bhera appeared, floating down the stream in sombre majesty, unattended by any of the numerous state barges, whose gaudy ornaments and illuminations were wont to add so much brilliancy to the scene. Insipidity and dulness, and confusion, were the order of the night. Some time before his highness's bhera reached the Inhamaul, much the greater part of the lights were burnt out, while those that remained shone out in irregular blazes, that served to render more visible the hideous intervals of darkness. The display of fire-works that succeeded, shewed a lamentable falling off from the exhibitions of former years.

The Nazim's bhera was followed by that of the family of Nawaub Sydo, (lately deceased, and the last of the legitimate offspring of Jaffer Ally Cawn.) This bhera in former years, preceded that of the Souba about a mile, and was generally in finer style, and of more costly and elegant construction, than any other, though not so large as the Nawaub's. By the time it arrived near the Inahmaul, the lights were so far extinguished, that it was impossible to see it distinctly.

In former years, the state barges attending the Nazim's bhera, formed a train, extending upwards of a mile in length, beyond the Killa, and used to protract the splendour of the scene, throughout the whole of that space; but this year the *Tomasha* commenced opposite Inahmaul, nor did a vestige of it, except the plantain tree platform, get beyond it.

Sep. 19.—A public sale of Madeira wine, the property of the East India company, was held at the Old Fort on Sunday last; when the London market Madeira sold as high as sicca rupees 470; and part of the India market wine sold at sicca rupees, 435 per pipe.

Late accounts from the island of Madeira, received by the ships from America, state, that wine had risen to 56l. sterling per pipe, in consequence of the short vintage of last year, and the great demand on account of English orders.

The vessels that have lately arrived at this port from America, bring little or no cargo. Their importations are chiefly confined to specie, for the purchase of their return investments. It was imagined that large quantities of wine and brandies would be brought

out to this country from America, as soon as a renewal of the intercourse with India should permit. But the quantity either of Madeira or French wines in America, was very small: and the importation of brandies, owing to the restricted intercourse with the ports in the Mediterranean, had been so much diminished, that they were not procurable in America, except at the most exorbitant prices.

Sept. 20.—On the 14th instant, captain Broughton, commander of his majesty's ship Illustrious, went on board the honourable company's cruizer Nautilus, in Saugor roads, and sailed through the fleet, giving his instructions to the different ships as he passed. On the 16th instant he joined the Illustrious, and, on the 18th all the captains of the respective vessels went on board the commodore, and received their last instructions previous to sailing. The weather at Saugor had for a considerable time before proved so boisterous that the dawk boats from Kedgeree were unable to reach many of the ships—and it was with considerable difficulty that the sloops containing such of the provisions and water as the ships had been unable to receive on board in the river, could get alongside This inconvenience was most severely felt by two of the Indiamen, the Hugh Inglis and City of London; and to such a degree, that it was at one time apprehended these vessels must have detained the fleet for some time longer.— Every thing was however completed, and the ships stood out from their anchorage and quitted pilot's water on the 18th instant. All well.

Sept. 21.—In the letters from Loodeehauneh, it is stated that Runjeet Sing was shortly expected at Fellore, a large town on the opposite bank of the Sutledge, and about five miles distant from the British station. It was said that he proposed to hold an interview there with colonel Ochterlony. But the ostensible object of his journey was, to visit a small fortress, which had lately been raised at Fellore, as a frontier defence, under the superintendence of a sirdar, named Mokam Chund, in the service of the Lahore chieftain.

It appears from these accounts, that the expedition, undertaken last year by Runjeet Sing, against Mooltan, had completely failed.

He was attended on that occasion by the flower of his army, his ablest leaders, and his heaviest ordnance. But every effort proved ineffectual; and he was finally compelled to retreat from the province in disgrace. Enraged by this disappointment, Runjeet immediately ordered all his infantry to be disbanded; and appointed Mokam Chund to raise new battalions at Fellore, to be organized and trained after the European manner. As the first step towards the accomplishment of this plan, every temptation was held out to induce the English Sepoys to desert from Loodehauneh,—and, for some time, they were not held out in vain. A Jemmadar, belonging to one of the native battalions, having first applied for and obtained his discharge, crossed the Sutledge, and obtained a distinguished station in the Seik service. He was followed, by a great many Sepoys of the same battalion. These were followed by others, men of every description: and, for a short time, desertions in bands, even of four or five at once, were not unusual. At length the evil cured itself. The deserters presently discovered, that their new fortunes by no means answered the high promises which had been set forth to them; and some of the number, smarting under the chagrin of their disappointment, ventured to testify their feelings in a manner not altogether agreeable to their Seik masters. The remedy usually employed by the chieftains, for the removal of such discontents, was immediately resorted to. Some of the transgressors were deprived of their noses and ears, and others of their heads. Even this expedient, however, was not altogether effectual to tranquillize the minds of the survivors; and other difficulties, with numerous little jealousies, arising, it was not long before Runjeet became heartily sick of his scheme. With that capricious propensity to extremes, which is one of the first characteristics of barbarism, he now determined

to employ no English deserters whatever in his army, for the future; and he issued a decree, directing, that no person, who had ever been in the British service, should be ferried over at any of the Ghauts on the Sutledge, under a penalty to the offender of 1000 rupees, with loss of nose and ears, and perpetual banishment from the country!

General Orders, by the Right Honorable the Governor-General in Council

FORT WILLIAM, SEPT. 21.—Lieutenant-colonel Henry Worsley, of the native infantry of this establishment, (not yet posted as lieutenant-colonel) having produced the prescribed certificates from the pay and medical departments, is permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough, for the recovery of his health.

The governor-general in council cannot on this occasion withhold the expression of his concern, that the government will be deprived for a time of the further services of lieutenant colonel Worsley, by the continuance of the same infirm state of health, which compelled that valuable officer to resign the situation of adjutant-general, after having so long filled it with the invariable approbation and confidence of the commander-in-chief and of government, and with eminent benefit to the public service.

J. ADAMS,
Sec. to Govt. Mil. Dept.

SEPT. 24.—The loss of the country ship Charles, of which intelligence has just reached Calcutta, has been attended with circumstances particularly melancholy. The Charles was on her voyage to this port, from the Gulph of Persia and Bombay. She touched on the coast of Coromandel for a cargo of salt, and sailed from Vizagapatam on the first current. The weather had then a very unsettled appearance, with frequent squalls, which increasing, as the moon advanced towards her quarter, it was deemed prudent to stand out into the Bay, and to prepare against the storm, which seemed to be impending. On the seventh current, accordingly, when the vessel had got to the distance of about 80 miles from the land, the gale set in, and blew with considerable violence. It had not continued long, when the carpenter reported, that the ship had sprung a leak, and that there were two feet water already in the hold. Recourse was had to the pumps: but the salt with which the ship was laden, greatly impeded the working, and one of the pumps was soon completely choaked. Captain Dennison then directed the fore hatch way to be opened, and proceeded to lighten the ship;---a measure which seemed to afford some temporary relief. The water, however, still continued to gain on them; and, both pumps having become nearly useless, from the quantity of salt, which had accumulated in their cavities, the main hatchway was also opened, and a fruitless attempt was made to ease the ship further by baling. The water had now increased to 8 feet; and as the vessel was settling more and more every minute, and all prospect of saving her seemed to have vanished, it was determined to put out the boats, in the hope of preserving the crew and some part of the treasure. The cutter was accordingly lowered from the stern, and the two jolly-boats from the quarters. They then proceeded to hoist out the long-boat. But by the time it was raised nearly to the verge of the gunwale, the water was approaching fast to the gun-deck, and the lascars who were employed at the tackle, became so excessively alarmed, that they let go their hold, and the boat fell back upon the deck. The men then leapt into the boat, where they lay down; and neither threats nor intreaties could prevail on them to exert themselves further. Before this time, one of the jolly-boats had been stove; and there remained only the other jolly-boat and the cutter, for the reception of those who chose to quit the ship. Captain Dennison, however, and several of his officers, seeing that all their efforts to get out the long boat were unavailing, went aft to the poop; and, together with major Grant (a passenger,) and part of the crew, amounting in all to 43 souls, embarked on these

two boats. They had separated but a short distance from the ship, when they saw her go down. Mr. Askwith, (the chief officer,) 41 Lascars, and upwards of 50 fine Arab horses from Bussorah, perished with her.

Had it not been for the insurmountable obstinacy of the lascars, it is considered extremely probable, that not only the lives of all the crew might have been saved, but also the greater part of the treasure, which, to the amount of three lacs of rupees, was totally lost.

As it was, Captain Dennison was unable to bring away, even a supply of biscuits and water, for the maintenance of himself and his comrades, who, for nine days together, continued exposed to the utmost extremity of distress. At length, on the 16th, they arrived at Balasore, where they were received and treated with the greatest kindness and hospitality.

The risks on the Charles, in the Calcutta Insurance offices, do not exceed, in the whole, all the sum of 90,000 rupees. The greater part of her treasure and cargo was the property of Arab merchants.

Sept. 26.---Four European soldiers belonging to the cantonments, in the neighbourhood of Agra; determined to put to death the first native they should find in a proper situation for their purpose. Their arrangements being made, they went out of cantonments, with a loaded musquet, and coming up with a native, a ryot at work, in an adjoining field, one of their number deliberately aimed his piece, and lodged its contents in the body of the man, who instantly fell, and died some short time afterwards. The alarm being given, the perpetrators were secured forthwith. Upon examination, the only motive that could be assigned for this deliberate and unprovoked murder was, that wearied and disgusted with the insipid routine of life in cantonments, they became so miserable, that they resolved at all hazards to effect a change of place and situation. Upon deliberation, no plan seemed better suited to effect their purpose, than that one of them should put to death a native, in presence of the three others: so that the man who should actually perpetrate the murder, would, in the ordinary course of proceeding, be apprehended and sent to Calcutta, to take his trial in the Supreme court, and the three others would be ordered to accompany him, as witnesses of the fact: and thus the whole party would secure a journey to the presidency. The measure being approved and agreed upon, the four men threw lots, to determine who should be the actual perpetrator of the intended murder. This point being adjusted, the man on whom the lot fell, loaded the musquet, and accompanied by his three accomplices, sallied forth in quest of their victim, who was put to death as above stated.

The four soldiers, charged with the above murder, are ordered to be sent to Calcutta, to take their trial at the ensuing Sessions.

BENGAL

Occurrences for October.

October, 1.— The following letter has been received by the government from captain Pym of the Sirius, giving an account of the action with the frigates and other ships in Grand Port, Mauritius.

Isle de la Passe, 24th August, 18th, and continued on the 25th.

My last would inform you my intention to attack the frigates, the Corvette, and the honourable company's ship in Grand Port.

The Magicienne having joined me at the time the re-captured ship Windham was about to set sail for Bourbon, I ordered captain Lambert to carry the armed brig (Brisk) with all expedition to the Isle de la Passe, and that the enemy in Port Louis might not be alarmed, I set all sail to the southward; and, although it blew hard, I arrived the next day at noon at the Isle de la Passe. The Nereide made signal that she was ready; I then bore down to her and reconnoitred the enemy's position, and decided to attack them. When the officer of the Nereide, who was to act as pilot, came on board,

I made signal to weigh anchor, and when we were about a mile distant from the enemy, he unfortunately ran us aground on the shoal of the *Petite Passe*, and, notwithstanding all our efforts we did not get off till eight next morning.

The 23d at noon, the Iphigenia and Magicienne arrived, and the enemy being then anchored nearer in shore, and having, under protection of the batteries, received many hands on board, I ordered the other frigates to assist me. I had on board all the captains and pilots, and they assured me all danger was past, and that we could get within reach of the enemy. We hastened to take our stations. The Syrius aboard the Bellone, the Nereide between the Syrius, the Victor, the Iphigenia on board the Minerva, the Magicienne between the Minerva and the company's ship.

In the hottest part of the fire the Syrius struck on an unknown shoal. Captain Lambert took his post and had scarcely fired his third broadside when the Minerva cut her cable to escape his fire. The Magicienne which was near the Iphigenia ran aground, so that she could only bring six guns to bear.

The unfortunate Nereide took her post, somewhat nearer, and sustained in the most courageous manner, the fire which was directed at her, as well at that which was aimed at the Syrius. The Bellone then cut her cable to get away. All the enemy's ships were aground, but seeing that the Syrius could not get off, they directed all their fire against the Nereide, who, though overwhelmed in this unequal combat, did not cease firing for ten hours. It is distressing to me to relate that the captain, officers, and men, of the Nereide, were either killed or wounded.

Captain Lambert would have closed with the enemy, had not a shoal prevented him, which was between him and the frigate. He did all in his power, and continued a distant but well-directed fire. The victory would have been certain could any one of our ships have come near the Bellone.

I must inform you that, from the moment we ran aground, every possible effort was made to get the ship off. Anchors were let go to warp out, but unfortunately they gave way, then I carried out my two last, after having paid out all my great warpline (a manœuvre not to be affected but by great and extraordinary efforts) and although I heaved at the capstan on the one, and applied the force of a tackle on the other, we could not stir an inch. This arose from the nature of the bottom on which we had grounded, and on the heavy squalls which blew. We lightened the frigate forward; every attempt was equally difficult and ineffectual to get afloat before day-light. All our efforts were unavailing. At this time the Nereide was a wreck; the Magicienne was in as unfortunate a position as the Syrius, and the Iphigenia found it impossible to approach the enemy's batteries, which were ranged all along the coast. These frigates could no longer, from their position, be of any use, as was determined on the morning of the twenty-fifth.

I then assembled the officers of rank, marine officers, carpenters, and others, who, after having made an exact and scrupulous examination, decided that it was impossible to get the frigate off; they made a report from the Magicienne, captain Curtis, adding that they had lost many men by the enemy's fire. I waited till night, and ordered them to leave the ship and to set fire to her, and as the enemy's ships could not get off, I thought it prudent to take post on the Isle de la Passe, and in consequence I have ordered the Iphigenia to come there to add to the defence of that island. Having no hope of speedy relief, I judged it right to abandon my ship, which was within reach of the enemy's batteries and ships, and which, from her situation, could return the fire with only two guns. When I had landed my crew on the Isle de la Passe, or put them on board the Iphigenia, lieutenant Watling and I set fire to my ship. I dare hope, sir, that though my enterprize has been unsuccessful, no blame can attach to any of us, as never captains, officers, or men, enter-

ed into an engagement with more certainty of conquering, and I dare affirm that if I could have laid the Syrius alongside the Bellone, all the enemy's ships must have struck to us in less than half an hour.

The Iphigenia frigate, and the crews of the Syrius and Magicienne, will serve as a defence for the Isle de la Passe.

(Signed) S. Pym.

After the capture of the isle of Bourbon, Mr. Farquhar, the governor, published the subjoined official paper.

PROCLAMATION.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE ISLE OF FRANCE.

Inhabitants,— The English are about to appear in the name of their king, before your port, not as enemies, but as your sincere friends; your commerce, the precious production of your isle, the fruits of your industry, have for several years been annihilated or shut up in your magazines; all the nations that are under French domination, cannot consume a pound of their colonial productions without the permission of England.

Engaged in the pursuit of an unjust and unbounded ambition, the French government has endeavoured to crush, and to hold in the most vile slavery, all the nations of the continent, but it can do nothing against England, who blockades its ports and prevents its sending ships to sea.

The insatiable desire which increases every day in France, to absorb kingdoms, has obliged the English to assume and to maintain the sovereignty at sea, and to occupy all the French colonies, not to make a monopoly of their productions, but to open a favourable market at the colony, and to all its good friends and allies; we are informed that plotters have tried to lessen our character in your eyes.

They have also falsely related that the price of coffee, of Martinique, had greatly fallen, but on the contrary, since we have taken possession of this island it has risen. How can it be otherwise? Our ships will come from all quarters into your roads to barter merchandize from Europe and India for those of your island; the only views of Britain are justice, commerce, and plenty. Our government is generous, it rewards the cultivator and the workman, as well as the sailor and the soldier, to the highest value of their services, without the least deduction. The French pay in paper and bills of Exchange, and we pay in Spanish coin.

Inhabitants, we are ready to land on your coasts with a formidable force by sea and land; to what purpose would you make a sacrifice by opposing the troops of his Britannic majesty, who only desires to take you under his gracious and royal protection! What has your government done for you? It has ruined your commerce, and forced your fathers and children to take service, without affording them the least subsistence; we have orders to cultivate the friendship of the colony, and to assure you, that his Britannic majesty is disposed to give you every protection that he gives to his own subjects, your own property of all kinds will be respected, you will have the full exercise of your religion, your religious establishments shall be maintained with all their privileges, your charitable institutions shall be respected, your laws and customs continued and honoured.

Not only your inland commerce shall be perfectly free, but you will be also allowed to trade to all our ports with the same advantages, and under the same rules as his Britannic majesty's subjects; the inhabitants shall be most favourably treated, and will be permitted to make use of all commercial advantages, that the situation of the island can offer.

Having given you this communication, it is our duty to make known to you on the other hand, that if, against the expectation of his Britannic majesty, you abandon your property, to make resistance to our troops, you will lose all the rights and indulgences which are now offered, and we have the most positive orders to subjugate all quarters and parts of the island, by force of arms. Should you thus reject

the favourable intentions of his Britannic majesty towards you, you will become responsible for the effusion of blood, the loss of your property, the depredation and revolt of your slaves, and, in short, for all the calamities of war which may befal you. INHABITANTS, remain on your estates, maintain the order of your household, hold your slaves in respect, and let peace reign every where amongst you.

I desire with much earnestness that the inhabitants should listen to my salutary and paternal advice, as I have the satisfaction to be nominated to the government, and general administration of the isles of France, Bourbon, and its dependencies.

I engage to re-establish you in your different quarters, and to make choice of those inhabitants who merit your confidence; that in the end you may appreciate the justice of my observations.

Be assured that these are my real sentiments; the Bourbonese already enjoy the happiness which awaits you, and I entreat you by this proclamation to imitate them.

St. Denis, isle of Bourbon, the 28th July, 1810.

R. T. FARQUAHAR, Governor.

By Order, A. BARRY,
Chief Sec. to Gov.

OCT. 3d.— According to late advices from Surat, a revolution is stated to have taken place in the principality of Cutch, which lies between Guzerat and the Indus. The Rajah of that country, having fallen into a malady which bereft him of his faculties, was dethroned and imprisoned, by the chief commander of his own forces, a man named Futteh Mahmood, who put to death the Rajah's brother, and assumed the sovereignty. The usurper was supported by the neighbouring Rajah of Scind. His authority, however, was still resisted by the tributary chieftain of Mandivi, between whose troops and the Cutch forces frequent skirmishes occurred.

OCT. 4th.— Recent accounts from Java, received by way of the west coast of Sumatra, state, on unquestionable authority, that the public course of proceedings of marshal Daendels, had created such general abhorrence of his person and conduct, that he was in perpetual apprehension of being poisoned, or otherwise put to death. He had exasperated, to the highest degree, both the European and Native inhabitants:—His many forced loans, and other arbitrary acts, had excited the indignation of all ranks and classes of men; except the few French officers of his suite; who are held in universal detestation, by the people of Java.

OCT. 7.—The army in this quarter, expect to have some active and harassing service, during the ensuing months, in the reduction of several forts, in the Vizier's dominions, possessed by certain refractory Zemindars, many of whom have proved so extremely troublesome, that it has become expedient, if not absolutely necessary, to put an end to this system of petty chieftainship; and it has been resolved by his highness, with the full approbation of the British resident, to reduce to immediate and unconditional obedience, those turbulent and disaffected personages; it is added that, conformably to this resolution, upwards of twenty petty forts are to be reduced forthwith. Lieutenant-colonel Palmer is to command the detachment on this service.

The greater number of these forts have already been repeatedly taken by the company's troops; the vizier again restored them on certain conditions, to their former possessors; but as the mischievous effects of that practice are now acknowledged, the forts are not merely to be reduced, but are to be destroyed and razed to the ground, a measure well calculated to avert future mischief, and to promote the tranquillity and welfare of his highness's dominions.

The Aumil made application, some days ago, for two companies and a gun, to be employed on secret service, most probably to coerce a refractory landholder, but the precise object is not yet known.

Two iron eighteen-pounders and two eight-inch howitzers from the magazine at Cawnpore, and intended to accompany the detachment to be employed in the reduction of the forts, arrived at a Ghaut in the vicinity of Pertaubghur, about fifteen or sixteen days ago, and two companies from the 2d battalion 11th regiment went to bring them into camp; but from the want of a sufficient number of hackeries, to carry the ammunition and stores, they have been detained at the Ghaut ever since their arrival. They are expected, however, at Pertaubghur about the 12th instant, when the detachment, under command of lieutenant-colonel Palmer, formed of the 2d battalion of the 11th, and two troops from the 3d cavalry, will march from Pertaubghur, and enter upon the active operations of the campaign, without loss of time. There are but a few of the forts that are expected to prove troublesome, in their reduction: the greater number will probably be evacuated, on the approach of the detachment.

Previously to general St. Leger's departure from the field, he made a visit to Lucknow, to take leave of his highness the Nawaub, by whom he was most courteously received. The general is now continuing his route to the presidency.

Fort William, October 12.—Colonel Barry Close having solicited and obtained the permission of government to resign his situation of resident at the court of his highness the Peishwah, and to embark for England, and colonel Close's resignation of that office having now been received, the right honourable the governor-general in council discharges a satisfactory obligation of his public duty, by combining with the expression of his regret at the departure of colonel Close, an acknowledgment of the high sense which his lordship in council entertains of the exemplary merits and eminent services of that most able and distinguished officer.

Uniting the highest qualities of the military profession, with the talents, disposition, and acquirements essential to the exercise of political and diplomatic functions, colonel Close has been selected by the discernment of successive governments, to fill the most important situations in both the military and political branches of the public service.

To enumerate the specific occasions on which the eminent zeal and abilities of colonel Close have been particularly conspicuous, would require a reference to many of the important events and transactions in India, which have taken place during a period of more than eighteen years. But those occasions are generally known, and his lordship in council, therefore, deems it sufficient to acknowledge, with cordial sentiments of approbation and applause, that by the general tenor of his military and political career, as well as by the exercise of distinguished fortitude, judgment, and address, on various occasions of public emergency, and under circumstances of more than ordinary difficulty, delicacy, and importance, colonel Close has most essentially contributed to the success of the British arms and councils, in this quarter of the globe, and has established a peculiar claim to the respect, esteem, and gratitude of his country.

By order of the right-honourable the governor-general in council,

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to Govt.

October 26.—Barrackpore and its vicinity were visited, on Saturday last, by an innumerable flight of locusts, whose course was marked by the entire destruction of every kind of verdure. This unusual phenomenon took place a little after noon, and continued for the space of an hour and a half, during which period the air was literally darkened, by the prodigious number of those destructive visitors.

Letters from Beerbhoom mention a similar phenomenon, and that the country had been infested, for several days, with prodigious swarms of locusts, whose ravages had, however, been confined to the destruction of the foliage and bark of trees. The paddy has not, in any instance, suffered from the attacks of these insects.

October 27.—The account, re-

ceived some time ago from Malacca, of the proceedings adopted by general Daendels against the officers concerned in the surrender of Amboyna, has been confirmed by the relations of the Buggese traders, and by advices received at Amboyna through such a variety of channels, that hardly any doubt can be entertained of the authenticity of the story. Col. Fitz, the commandant of the Dutch forces on the island, had been publicly executed. Even the civil governor had been dismissed with disgrace, on the charge of having assisted to draw out articles of capitulation, on the day preceding that on which the English landed. And the few Dutch officers, who had chosen to remain at Amboyna under the English government, rather than to proceed to Java as prisoners of war, had been denounced for traitors, their effigies hung in public, and a reward offered for their heads.

The affairs of the Dutch in that quarter are very precariously situated. The island continued still the theatre of an inveterate warfare; general Daendels himself had found it necessary to head the troops; and, in some recent actions with the Bantamese, had been worsted.

The character of Daendels is very highly respected among his countrymen, notwithstanding the traits of severity by which it is distinguished. He is accounted a man of the strictest honour, perfectly brave, of great talent and activity, and, (contrary to what has commonly been supposed,) by no means a partizan of the French interests, but a sincere lover of his native country, and open in his condemnation of the system of measures by which she has lately been degraded.

BENGAL
Occurrences for November.

November 2.—Accounts have been received from the eastward, of the loss of the ship Harrier, captain Hunt, of Madras, on a reef of rocks near Sooloo. On the vessel getting on shore, the crew were attacked by the natives, and every soul on board put to death. The wreck was afterwards plundered of every thing valuable.

The Harrier and cargo were insured to the amount of three lacs, of which sum, 75,000 rupees fall upon one of the Calcutta Insurance offices.

November 3.---The strong fortress of Nurwar, till lately deemed by the country powers impregnable, surrendered to Scindia's forces on the 15th of September. The acquisition of this important post is known to have been obtained by stratagem, the garrison having been mostly gained over to the interest of Scindia.

By the possession of Nurwar, Scindia has acquired an immense supply of military stores, of every description. His pecuniary resources, however, had become so circumscribed, that several battalions of his best troops have mutinied for want of pay, and in attempting to suppress the disaffected numbers of both parties fell in the conflict, and the mutineers in the end effected their retreat without molestation.

Scindia, according to report, was about to restore to liberty the celebrated Kurreem Khan, of the Pindarree tribe, on condition of his paying a ransom of eight lacs of rupees.

The impoverished state of Scindia's finances renders the report not improbable.

November 4.---The most important political event, which has lately occurred in Hindoostan, is the death of the Princess of Oudipore by poison; a catastrophe which, however revolting to human nature, but too closely corresponds with the ordinary course of Asiatic history. This lady, it seems, had for some years before been the great source of contention and discord among the Rajpoot States. The family of the Rana of Oudipore being accounted more ancient and honourable than that of any other Hindoo prince, his alliance was naturally sought by the neighbouring potentates of Jaypore and Joudpore, who both aspired to the hand of the princess. The rivalship of these two Rajahs produced a war, in which Scindia, Holkar, Ameer Khan, and all the native chieftains in that quarter, have at one time or other

taken a part. The contest, however, has at length been terminated in the manner above related. The poison was administered to the princess by her own aunt, and with the knowledge of her father. Report adds, that the whole scheme was secretly contrived by Ameer Khan; who, finding that the Rana of Oudipore, (now entirely in his power,) was too far engaged to the Jaypore Rajah to retract, and resolved that his own ally, the Rajah of Joudpore should not be disgraced by the triumph of his rival, suggested this expedient, as the only mode of at once settling all their pretensions, and terminating the ten years' war, which this second Helen had excited.

Nov. 6.—Recent accounts from the camp of Holkar represent that once formidable chieftain as labouring under the horrors of settled mental derangement. The management of all public business had devolved, or more properly speaking, had been assumed by Meer Khan.

Nov. 8th.—The ravages lately committed by locusts in many parts of Hindoostan, have been considerably more extensive than this country has experienced for many preceding years. From a comparison of the several periods of visitation, as reported from different quarters, there seems reason to infer, that the whole has been the work of a single swarm, which entered the Peninsula from the west, about the beginning of September, and after passing the skirts of the Mahratta country, and visiting the Dooab and Rohilcund, bent its course towards the south east, and first appeared in Bengal about a fortnight ago.

Letters of the 20th of September, received within these few days from Guzerat, inform, that a prodigious flight of these insects had recently passed over that province, and that a famine was in consequence apprehended. On the 25th of the same month, a similar occurrence is reported from Futtyghur, and subsequently from Barelly. On the 18th of October the locusts appeared at Soorool, from whence they reached Barrackpore on the 20th, and then passed on to the eastward in the direction of Jessore.

The following communication wa transmitted from Comillah.

November, 3.—"We were, las Wednesday (the 31st ultimo,) visite by a party of most alarming intruder a vast swarm of large Locusts, whic descended here, in a black cloud, th almost darkened the rays of the su and, after demolishing some rice field and doing much mischief among t trees (particularly the mangoe,) fortu nately left us on the following day They proceeded from hence toward the hills, which extend along the fron tier of this district.—It would b difficult to give any idea of the number. They appeared a solid an vast column, several miles in extent and our clear atmosphere becar gloomy at their approach. The nativ were greatly alarmed on the occasion and the more so, as those insects h not been seen before in this part of th country within the memory of ma —They came from the north-wes and are probably the same swar which appeared near the presiden some time ago."

Muttra, Nov. 10—"We are ju returned from a grand ceremonial. Th troops of the station, consisting of th horse artillery under Capt. Penning ton; the foot do. under lieut. Mac dowell; the 1st cavalry, and the 16t regiment, N. I. proceeded from the respective lines at gunfire, and foun themselves in front of the horse arti lery barracks by sun rise; when lieu colonel Thomas assumed the comma of the whole, and a sort of line w formed in the following order, reckon ing from the right:

"Horse artillery, 1st battalion 16 regiment, 2 six pounders; 2d battal on 16th regiment, 2 six pounders; 6t regiment of cavalry and gallopers- ranks were now opened and arm ordered, in which situation we r mained till about ten o'clock; when band of tom-toms and cymbals, a nounced the approach of her highne Bala Bhace, a daughter of the la Mahajee Sindia.—This illustrious pe son, on drawing near the left of t line, was honoured by (what is he termed) a double royal salute, or 4 guns; and as she passed along, w

eceived with presented arms, officers alating individually, and king's and egimental colours dropping. From e above compliment, it is conjecured, that Bala Bhace may be (strange it appears,) a descendent of the Imerial Gunnor, or possessed of a fieldarshal's commission.

"The Bhace, whilst passing down the ne, appeared to express her satisaction by wearing a yellow shawl om the end of a silver sontah. On eaching her tent, she was once more ddressed from the mouths of cannon."

Nov. 13.—The following paper is correct and literal translation of a rophecy, pronounced lately by a rahman at Benares.

"The most express intelligence of an visible speaker from the abode of nderstanding, is thus published. hat the following prediction inscrib- by the secretary of Heaven on a lden tablet, descended into the cusdy of a Brâhman, a Brahmachári(1) ersed in the mysteries of the godead, an inhabitant of Benares, in the ear 1867, Sambat, (2) for the inforation and preservation of mankind. hat on the 20th of the month Mägha) in the year 1868 Sambat; when e moon is in Rewati (4) when the óga will be Ayushmán (5) and Min agan, (6) when six Ghàris of the day ave elapsed, in the Galynga, the alities of the Satyayuga will obtain,) and this happy state will continue r 12,000 years. The natural life of an will be 150 years, and all manind will remain in perfect health and ppiness. The influence of three acshatras will extend over the twelve months. (8) In that same year an Avàtar celebrated in the Vedas will be produced in the house of one of the Chan dravansi.(9) To this the Vedas and Paranas bear testimony. In that aame year, one day there will be an earthquake which will last one Pahr, or eight Ghâris, (10) during which the heavens will be agitated. Whoever shall fix his mind on the supreme being will then remain in safety; but whoever disbelieves this revelation will then perish in the general convulsion. Whoever shall publish to all mankind this glorious news, great will be his reward."

Nov. 15.—Between the hours of two and four o'clock, the settlement was visited by an innumerable flight of locusts; in all probability, the same whose ravages in different parts of Bengal have already been so circumstantially related. When first observed, their course appeared to be directed from the west, towards the north-east, in which direction they passed over the settlement, affording the kites, crows, and adjutants, a most plentiful regale; such, however, was the immensity of their numbers, that the attacks of the feathered tribe caused no apparent diminution, the atmosphere being literally darkened. Several of these insects considerably exceeded in length three inches.

Nov. 17.---Early this morning, Mr. Wolff, supracargo of the Betsey, arrived in Calcutta, charged with dispatches for the right honourable the governor-general, from Bourbon.

The Betsey sailed from St. Paul's on the 22d of September, and arrived in the roads four or five days ago; Mr.

1 One of the four ăshramas or modes of life adopted by Hindoos; he devotes his life to ligious exercises, austerity, and celibacy.

2 The æra of Viaramadituya. The year described is the present one, and will expire in larch next, when the sun enters Aries.

3 Corresponding to December 1811, and January 1812.

4 The 28th and last of the Nacshatras of Lunar mansions of the Hindus. Its principal star Piscium. See As. Res. IX. p. 346.

5 The third yôga. The yoga is nothing else than a mode of inducting the sum of the lonudes of the sun and moon. For a full account of it and the mode whereby it is calculated e As. Res. Vol. IX. p. 365.

6 That is when the moon is rising in Pisces.

7 The Satya yoga is the golden age of the Hindus.

8 The meaning of this passage is obscure. Probably three of the lunar mansions have more benign influence than any of the others, and that influence is to be uninterrupted.

9 Lunar race.

10 Three hours twelve minutes.

Wolff left her off the eastern sea reef, and going on board a pilot schooner, came to town by that conveyance.

Though one part of the intelligence now received from Bourbon is unwelcome, it is amply counterbalanced by subsequent events, and the general state of affairs at the island, upon the departure of the Betsey.

The gallant captains Pym and Lambert, their officers and men, were compelled to surrender the Iphigenia frigate, and Isle de la Passe, to the outnumbering force by which, on all sides, they were surrounded. The enemy, however, found no ulterior cause of exultation from this event: their success did not extend beyond the mere surrender of the frigate and the rock: it did not lead to any of those unfavourable results that had been apprehended: on the contrary, it led to new opportunities for British triumph, of which commodore Rowley, and the remnant of his little squadron, most gloriously and successfully availed themselves.

The enemy, emboldened by their success at Isle de la Passe, detached two of their frigates, the Iphigenia and L'Astrea, to blockade the island of Bourbon. As the Mauritius was distressed for provisions, a principal object, with the French frigates sent to blockade Bourbon, was to intercept the expected English transports, bound to that island from India and Madagascar. Some transports fell into their hands, and were sent over to the Mauritius. Commodore Rowley, with the Boadicea, lay at anchor at this time in St. Paul's.

On the 12th September, while the enemy were blockading Bourbon, his majesty's frigate l'Africaine, captain Corbett, arrived from England, and anchored at St. Denis. On commodore Rowley being informed of the arrival of the Africaine, he made the necessary dispositions for the attack of the two blockading frigates by the Boadicea and l'Africaine. For that purpose, both ships weighed anchor nearly at the same time, and stood out to sea. On perceiving the design of the British frigates, the Iphigenia and Astrea made sail from the island, in the hope of avoiding an action. The English frigates followed, and the chace continued for some hours; l'Africaine was by far the swiftest sailer of the whole; she came up with the flying enemy, while commodore Rowley, in the Boadicea, was several miles astern. The gallant and impetuous spirit of captain Corbett did not allow him to wait for the coming up of the Boadicea; for he saw that if he did so, the enemy would, in the mean time, escape. He resolved, therefore, to attack both; with his single frigate he run up, at three o'clock in the morning, between the two frigates, and opened a heavy fire upon each. The action continued with great fury for some time: the English fire made dreadful carnage with the enemy's frigates; but at length the masts of the Africaine went by the board; captain Corbett was killed, and every man on deck, except three, being either killed or wounded, and the ship being at the same time reduced to the state of an unmanageable wreck, struck her colours, and was taken in possession by the enemy.

During this unequal conflict, commodore Rowley was coming up with all possible expedition; the two French frigates had suffered so severely in their action with the Africaine, that they had no inclination to renew the battle with the Boadicea: on her approach, they left their prize to be retaken by commodore Rowley, and made off, with all practicable dispatch, to the isle of France, to refit the injuries they had sustained in their action with the Africaine. They were both much crippled, and owed there escape entirely to the heaviness of the sailing of the Boadicea.

During the few hours that the Africaine remained in the bay of St. Denis she was reinforced from the garrison, by two hundred men, commanded by major Barry, who volunteered his services on the occasion. Major Barry was taken with the Africaine, sent on board the Iphigenia, and carried to the Isle of France.

Captain Elliot, of the Madras establishment, who volunteered his services on board the Africaine, was killed in the action.

On the return of the Africaine to Bourbon, the number of her wounded, landed at St. Paul's, amounted to one hundred and twenty.

In a day or two after the action with the Africaine, La Venus frigate, and the Victor corvette, came down from the Isle of France, and took their station off Bourbon, with the design of continuing the blockade of the island; while on that station they fell in with, in the night of the 17th September, the English frigate Ceylon, having on board his excellency general Abercrombie, bound from Madras to Bourbon. The enemy attacked the Ceylon; and after an action of three hours, she struck to their superior force, but not before the Venus was dismasted.

Commodore Rowley being informed of the capture of the Ceylon, weighed with all expedition from St. Paul's, and taking with him the Otter sloop of war, and Staunch gun-brig, went in pursuit of the enemy, who were endeavouring to make off with their prize. The commodore came up with them;—an action ensued, but it was of short duration, the Venus soon struck her colours to the Boadicea, and commodore Rowley returned to St. Paul's, bringing with him La Venus, and the recaptured frigate Ceylon, with general Abercromby on board.

The island of Bourbon was in a state of perfect security; the Boadicea, L'Africaine, and Ceylon, British frigates, were at St. Paul's, also the Otter sloop of war, the Staunch gun-brig, the Venus prize frigate, and the Windham Indiaman.

Some inconvenience was experienced at Bourbon from the want of naval stores

The Boadicea was the only frigate at the island, that had her masts standing; and no masts were procurable. Those of the Windham Indiaman were to be taken out and employed either for the Africaine or Ceylon.

The French at the Mauritius, had succeeded in getting afloat the frigates Minerva and Bellona, which had been forced on shore in Grand Port by the Syrius and Magicienne.

CALCUTTA GAZETTE EXTRA-ORDINARY.

Fort-William, Nov. 17, 1810.—The following extract from a dispatch from the honourable the governor of the Isle of Bourbon, dated the 22d of September, reporting the naval operations in the vicinity of the French islands, subsequent to the loss of his majesty's frigates in the harbour of Port South East, together with the documents to which it refers, is published for general information.

The sentiments of regret and concern, with which it is impossible to contemplate the fate of the gallant commander of his majesty's ship the Africaine, which, with the characteristic spirit of the British navy, singly sustained a combat with two of the enemy's frigates, and the loss of the many valuable officers and men, who have been slain, wounded, and captured in the several severe and unequal actions recorded in the following documents, are greatly alleviated by the success which has happily attended the judicious activity and exertions of that brave and distinguished officer, commodore Rowley, in recovering his majesty's frigates, the Africaine and Ceylon, from the hands of the enemy, and in capturing one of the largest and most efficient ships of the French squadron. A success the more important, as it afforded a prospect of speedily regaining that maritime ascendancy, which anterior reverses had suspended, and of enabling a British squadron to resume the blockade of the Isle of France.

Extract from a letter from the governor of the isle of Bourbon, to the address of the right honourable the governor-general in council, under date the 22d September, 1810.

Events have crowded upon one another at this settlement since my last dispatch to your lordship, under date the 27th ultimo, by the Egremont schooner, duplicates of which were forwarded on the same day by the Bridgewater.

It appears that his majesty's ship Iphigenia, and the garrison of the Isle

of Passe, must have capitulated shortly after the negotiation, which seems to have taken place on the 28th ultimo. I do not know the terms, nor any particulars of the capitulation; the first account of the Iphigenia's fate having been announced here by that frigate's appearing off the coast of Bourbon, under French colours. By this event, our naval force on this station was reduced to one frigate, his majesty's ship Boadicea, commodore Rowley, and the Emma transport, which was armed on the emergency.

The Boadicea and the Emma still kept their station off the Isle of France, in the hope that some means might be derived of succouring the Iphigenia; but the commodore concluding at length, from the Iphigenia's not answering any private signals, and from other circumstances, that she must be in the hands of the enemy, sent the Emma to cruize to windward of Rodriguez, and returned to the bay of St. Paul's. In the mean time the Bombay Merchant transport, which had been dispatched with troops and provisions for the assistance of the frigates and garrison at the Isle of Passe, and the provision ships, which sailed from Madras in June last, anchored in safety at Bourbon.

The enemy's frigate Iphigenia and Astree, and Entrepenante corvette, came down from the Isle of France and took a position to windward of this island, on the 10th instant; and on the same day, a cartel arrived from the Isle of France, by which conveyance I received a letter from general de Caen, offering an exchange of prisoners. The offer was peremptorily refused, and the cartel ordered to depart, when I received another intimation from the captain of the cartel, (through the officer whom I sent off to that vessel,) that he would deliver up the English he had on board unconditionally, and they were accordingly landed.

On the 12th instant, his majesty's ship Africaine, captain Corbett, arrived at St. Denis, direct from England, and on her way to India. The intelligence was immediately communicated to commodore Rowley, then at St. Paul's, who proceeded with the Otter sloop of war, and Staunch gun-brig, to join captain Corbett, for the purpose of attacking the French frigates. An ardent zeal for the honour and interests of his country, led captain Corbett to commence an action with both the French frigates, while the commodore, in his majesty's ship Boadicea, who was some miles astern, had the misfortune to be becalmed. This unequal contest terminated in the death of the gallant and distinguished commander of the Africaine, in the loss of 170 killed and wounded, and the total destruction of every mast in his majesty's ship; when resistance became fruitless, the colours were hauled down, and the Africaine was taken possession of by the French. A breeze springing up about an hour after this action, the commodore offered battle to the two French frigates, which, from their position, had scarcely received any damage, but the combat was by them declined. He then proceeded to join the Otter sloop and Staunch gun-brig, (out of sight to leeward,) and bearing down again upon the enemy, in the afternoon, retook his majesty's ship Africaine from the French frigates, which made all possible sail, and fled from the commodore. The Africaine was towed into the bay of St. Paul's. I do myself the honour to transmit to your lordship, a copy of commodore Rowley's letter, relative to this affair.

'It is with the deepest regret, that I have to announce to your lordship, the death of captain Elliott, who, together with major Barry, embarked on board the Africaine as volunteers while in sight of the enemy. These two officers greatly distinguished themselves by their exertion on the quarter-deck, during the sanguinary contest which took place. About the middle of the action, captain Elliott received three musket balls in his head, which put an end to his existence; and major Barry, remaining on the quarter-deck, one out of three who had not been either killed or wounded during the engagement, was taken prisoner and carried to the Isle of France. I am irresistibly led to express, in this place, the

irreparable injury the public service has sustained by the temporary loss of the chief secretary to this government, who has filled that station since the conquest of the island, with the most exemplary zeal, great ability, and indefatigable application. I have appointed my military secretary, captain Hewett, to act for major Barry, until circumstances shall enable the latter to resume the functions of his office.

On the 18th instant, an action commenced off the isle of Bourbon, between his majesty's ship Ceylon and the Venus French frigate, of 44 guns, and Victor sloop of war. After a most gallant defence, during five hours, the Ceylon was obliged to strike to superior force. The Venus was dismasted, and the Ceylon, in a most crippled and unmanageable state, was towed off by the Victor. The intelligence of this engagement was immediately dispatched to St. Paul's, and the commodore proceeded forthwith, with the Otter and Staunch, in pursuit of the enemy, and coming up with him about five o'clock in the evening, retook the Ceylon, and captured the Venus: enclosure No. 7, is a copy of commodore Rowley's letter to me detailing this service.

It is a most satisfactory circumstance, that general Abercromby, who was on board his majesty's ship Ceylon, should have been thus saved from captivity, and enabled to carry into execution the important service entrusted to his direction by your lordship. I shall conclude this plain narrative of facts with one observation, which is, that the loss of the Venus, the finest French frigate belonging to the station, and the most efficiently manned, is a very severe blow upon general de Caen, and that while the damage we have sustained at sea, will only increase his embarrassment, the diminution of 350 men out of the small force he possessed for the defence of the Isle of France, without a prospect of reinforcements arriving from Europe, will greatly facilitate the conquest of that island, by the British armament.

With a view of giving every facility in my power to the exertion of commodore Rowley in re-equipping the squadron in the present emergency, I have authorized him to employ any of the ships in the service of government as men of war.

Great and increasing distress prevail at the isle of France, and as soon as we regain the ascendency at sea, which will be the moment our crippled ships are repaired, and which object commodore Rowley hopes to compass before many days elapse, the disastrous consequences of our late naval losses will entirely cease, to be felt, excepting by the enemy, upon whom, even his late successes bear as irreparable injuries. The enemy cannot, in my opinion, after the loss of the Venus frigate, and the losses sustained in the different actions which have been fought, muster crews, more than sufficient for three frigates, and in making this exertion, he must entirely drain the isle of France of its present slender means of defence.

(No. 5.)

His majesty's ship Boadicea, St. Paul's Road, Isle of Bourbon, September 15, 1810.

Sir,- -You are already acquainted with our having, in company with the Africaine frigate, Otter sloop, and Staunch gun-brig, given chase to the Astree and Iphigenia, French frigates, who stood off with a fresh breeze to the Eastward, while we remained with the light and baffling westerly breezes, that prevail on that part of the coast; the Africaine, however, by superior sailing, and having the same wind as the enemy, was enabled to close him before dark, and the Boadicea left by the signals made from the Africaine, got sight of him at nine P. M. and continued gaining fast upon him: the Africaine had for some time shortened sail, being within gun shot of the enemy, when at three A. M. we observed her commence a firing at one of the enemy's frigates, the Boadicea then about four or five miles astern, still nearing them fast. I conclude it was captain Corbett's intention merely to open a partial fire, with a view of crippling the enemy's ships, but unfortunately at the mo-

ment the wind became light and variable, and the Africaine, who had closed with the enemy, while unmanageable, got exposed to the fire of both ships, one of them in a destructive raking position, and after a most gallant, though unequal contest, she was compelled to surrender: the firing had ceased at four 15. A. M. but we were uncertain of the result, and just as the day dawned, had arrived within musket shot of the ships, when to my infinite regret and mortification, I perceived the Africaine in possession of the enemy, who appeared to have suffered (particularly the Astree) but little in their rigging, masts, or yards; the Africaine's masts were also at this time standing, with the exception of the mizen top-mast. I therefore considered the state of the enemy such as not to justify my commencing an attack on so superior a force, particularly in the present critical position of affairs, and when we had information of two more frigates and a corvette cruizing in the neighbourhood. I therefore made sail to rejoin the Otter and Staunch, then out of sight, which having effected, we stood towards the enemy's frigates, who, at our approach, abandoned the Africaine, leaving only an officer and nine Frenchmen in charge of her, with sixty-five wounded, and about eighty-three others of her crew, whom they had not time to remove, and at five in the afternoon we regained the possession of her.

It is with concern I have to mention, that there is a considerable loss of killed and wounded, but the extent I have not been able to ascertain; and with deep regret I name my gallant friend, captain Corbett, among the number; he was wounded early in the action, and died a few hours after it ceased. Captain Elliott of the staff, I am sorry to add, is among the killed; and major Barry and lieutenant Holmes, of the 86th, wounded; the former a prisoner, which inclines me to hope his wound is not dangerous.

The two enemy's frigates were in sight from the mast-head, yesterday evening, to the eastward, standing, as we suppose, on their way to join the Manche and Venus, to windward of the island.

I have the honor to be, &c.

(Signed) Jos. Rowley.

No. 7,

His majesty's ship Boadicea, St. Paul's Road, Isle of Bourbon, Sept. 19.

Sir,—I have the honour to inform you, that shortly after having anchored in the bay yesterday morning, we discovered three sail in the offing, two of which appeared in a disabled state. We immediately weighed, in company with the Otter and Staunch gun-brig, but from light winds were unable for some time to clear the bay, at which period the ships were nearly out of sight; the Boadicea, however, within the advantage of a fresh breeze, soon neared them. On our approach, one of them, which had a disabled frigate in tow, cast her off, and made all sail away from us; the third, a frigate under courses, her top-mast being shot away, had bore up to close the other; we ran her alongside, and after a close of a few minutes, she surrendered, and proved to be the French imperial frigate La Venus, of 44 guns, with a complement, on leaving port, of 350 men. She had in the early part of the morning, in company with the Victor corvette, captured, after the most gallant defence, his majesty's ship Ceylon, commanded by captain Gordon, having on board general Abercrombie and his staff, bound for this island. Our loss on this occasion was trifling, two men only being wounded; that of La Venus was nine killed and seventeen wounded.

We anchored here with La Venus and Staunch this morning, but the Otter and Ceylon have not yet arrived, though in sight from the mast-head when we entered the bay: captain Gordon, and almost the whole of his crew, are on board the latter, so that I trust she will soon be again in a state for service. We shall proceed with all expedition in fitting the other frigates for sea.

I have the honor to be, &c. &c.

(Signed) Jos. Rowley.

To the hon. R. T. Farquhar Esq. &c.

Published by order of the right ho-

nourable the governor-general in council.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to the Government.

Nov. 24. --- On Monday last, a meeting of the proprietors of the bank of Bengal was held, pursuant to public advertisement, for the election of a director, in the room of lieutenant D. Macleod resigned; and for the consideration of the proposition, whether the government treasury notes, the property of the bank, and now coming in course of payment, should be transferred to the government 6 per cent. loan? The question had been brought before the directors, some weeks ago, when it was determined that the treasury notes should not be transferred to the 6 per cent. loan. That resolution was confirmed by the meeting of proprietors, held at the bank on Monday.

At the same meeting, major Atty Hennessy was elected a director of the bank, in the room of lieutenant Macleod.

The Loss of the ship Agnes, captain Sims.

The ship Agnes, captain Sims, left her Bengal pilot on the 10th of May last, bound to Prince of Wales's Island, where she arrived on the 31st. She remained there till the 18th of June, when she weighed, and sailed for Acheen, and anchored there on the 24th; sailed thence, on the following day, for Madras. From the time of leaving Acheen, till the 10th of July, the log of the Agnes presents a continued series of stormy, unsettled weather, with frequent heavy squalls; the winds chiefly from the South-West. During that time the ship laboured much; made a considerable quantity of water, and lost various parts of her rigging. Nearly one half of the ship's company was sick, and the other half exhausted with incessant fatigue, so that it was with difficulty the ship could be worked. Having steadily persevered, for upwards of 15 days, to get to the southward; but finding, by an observation on the 10th of July, the first had for five days, that they were losing ground, it was determined, after due consultation, for the safety of the people, as well as of the ship and cargo, to stand over for the Coast of Coromandel, to make, if possible, Coringa, or some other part of it; in the expectation of more favourable winds and weather, and to endeavour to get to Madras, by working down the coast. The ship's course was altered accordingly, on the 10th of July: being then Lat. 13° 18' N. The weather continued unsettled and squally, and so cloudy as to admit of no observation. On the 14th, it was unusually thick and cloudy, and still without an observation. On this day a sudden squall split the mainsail, and occasioned some other damage. Fresh gales continued during the latter part of the 13th, and the whole of the 14th; and at ten minutes past 4, A. M. on the 15th, the ship struck. The helm was immediately put a weather, and the afteryards squared, in the hope of wearing ship: finding that she would not wear, hove all aback, but without effect. It was then proposed to let go an anchor; but finding by the lead that the ship forged a head, from the force of the sea, that measure was countermanded, as, had an anchor been let go, in her then situation she would have forced it through her bottom, as she drove forward on the sand. She soon began to strike very heavily abaft; and in a short time the rudder was beat off; the tiller broke nearly at the same time, and in a few minutes went clear of the stern.

At break of day, though the weather still continued thick and cloudy, the land was seen, with a heavy surf breaking along the shore, which extended from W. N. W. to East. Captain Sims and his officers were naturally much astonished at finding the ship aground upon the coast, having had no previous indication of being in the vicinity of the land; and from the unfavourable state of the weather, which, for several preceding days, had prevented any observation, the true state of the ship was concealed; and it was not till now, when she was on shore, that it was found that she had been carried, by unaccountable

currents, upwards of two degrees and a half from her place, as given by account.

In a short time after the rudder had beat off, the ship was driven, by the violence of the sea, nearer to the surf. At 6, A. M. the sea broke over the after part so heavily, that the dead-lights and counter were forced in, and the water made a free passage fore and aft, in the between decks. Under these dangerous circumstances, it became a necessary duty to make preparations for the safety of the people on board. With that view, a small raft was got ready, and an attempt made by its means to pass a rope to the shore. Three men were placed upon the raft, with a quantity of small line, which was veered away; but the current set so strongly along shore, to the north-east, that it was found impossible to gain the beach; and before the raft could be hauled back to the ship, it was repeatedly overset, to the great danger of the men that were upon it. While these attempts were making to gain the shore with the small raft, one of a larger size was prepared and launched. Six hands were placed on this raft; and after much labour, and unavoidable delay, it was got on shore, at a great distance to leeward of the ship. The natives, of whom several had, by this time, assembled on the beach, went into the surf, and assisted the people from the ship, in hauling the rope, that had been carried ashore, so as to bring it abreast of the wreck, when a larger rope was bent to the one that had already reached the beach, with the intention of getting the end of the larger rope to shore, and then to lash the bight of it to the raft, so as to secure the means of hauling that raft to and from the shore and the ship, by which all the persons on board might be carried on shore; but owing to the number of people on the beach, who began to haul upon the rope, it gave way, and thus all that had been gained by so much labour and perseverence, was lost in a moment. Some other attempts were set on foot to send another rope on shore. In the mean time the situation of the people on board became more and more perilous.

Towards noon, the swell rather increased, the ship striking very heavily, and the masts threatening momentarily to fall overboard; it was thought expedient that Mrs. Sims and two infant children, passengers on board, should be placed in the long boat; which being done, and the tackles fixed, the boat was hoisted out, and Mr. Crouch, the first officer, with four hands, went on board, to endeavour to conduct her safely to the shore, through the surf. Before the tackles could be cleared, the sea broke over the boat, and she was nearly filled, and stove in on one side, so that she was in imminent danger of going down along side. In this frightful condition, Mrs. Sims and the two children were floated and thrown to and fro upon the water, which nearly filled the boat. At length she got clear of the wreck, and after an hour of hard toil, during which the boat was exposed to the incessant breaking of the surf, succeeded in gaining the shore, drenched with water, and worn out with fatigue; one of the planks being beat from the bottom of the boat, and some others having started, as she took the shore, she was rendered unfit to go off to the ship. The people on board being thus deprived of the assistance on which they had relied from the shore, began to prepare a large raft from the spare top-mast and top-sail yard, and a Catamaran, brought from a distant part of the coast, fortunately came along side about the same time. As all hope of saving the ship had been for some time at an end, there being sixteen feet water in the hold, the between decks entirely full, the counter beat in, &c. the presence of the commander or officers could be no longer useful. Captain Sims, therefore, determined to attempt to get on shore; he and the syrang leaped overboard, and caught hold of the Catamaran, by which they were carried through the surf, and landed on the beach. Before quitting the ship, captain Sims caused several of his trunks to be thrown overboard, that they might have the

chance to be driven on shore; some of them did reach the beach, and various papers and other articles were thus saved.

Upon his landing, captain Sims ascertained, from the people of the adjoining country, who had collected on the beach, the name of the place at which he was wrecked, to be Kisnapilly, a dreary and desolate part of the coast; without a house or a hut in sight, or within several miles; in lat. 16 deg. 24 N. about thirty miles to the southward of Coringa; the country around was barren, and the beach covered with sand hillocks, formed by the eddying of the winds; there were no trees, no verdure, nor any shelter from the inclemency of the weather. Madepollam, fourteen miles distant, was the nearest station, and the seat of a British resident. Paper and a pencil having been saved from the wreck, a note was dispatched to Madepollam, acquainting the resident with the circumstance of the shipwreck, and the distress of the survivors.

In the course of the afternoon, the Catamaran was sent off twice to the ship, and brought on shore as many of the people as would venture to leap from the wreck, and trust themselves to pass the surf with the Catamaran. As the night approached, captain Sims, and the party on shore, with the assistance of the natives, got the two boats hauled up to the nearest sand hillocks, and placing them on the top of those, with their bottoms upwards, formed in that way, a sort of covering, under which Mrs. Sims, the children, and the other sufferers, found some shelter from the rain, which at intervals descended in torrents.

Just as the evening set in, the large raft, with Mr. Martin, second officer, and eleven people, came on shore from the wreck, being all that would venture to trust themselves to that conveyance, leaving on board the gunner and ten lascars. When Mr. Martin left the ship, she had settled so deeply in the sand, that she had but little motion, though she was going to pieces abaft; and some of her planks, and various parts of her cargo, consisting of chests of silk, bags of pepper, &c. &c. were found floating ashore, to the distance of a mile or two to leeward of the ship. A part of the silk, pepper, &c. were picked up, and brought to the boats during the night, to preserve them from the natives, who shewed a strong disposition to plunder. The lascars evinced the utmost apathy; they could not be prevailed on to assist in recovering any part of the property, nor even to assist any of their fellow sufferers.

On the following day, the 16th July, the wreck was found to have settled still more deeply in the sand. The gunner and ten lascars still remained on board, as they were unwilling to trust themselves to the raft, and the Catamaran people could not be prevailed on to go again to the wreck. The Serang and all the lascars, who had got on shore, deserted in the course of the night.

About eight o'clock, an answer was received to the note dispatched on the preceding day, to Mr. Dodwell, the resident at Madepollam. The letter from that gentleman was accompanied with a supply of refreshments and money; with servants, provisions, and whatever an humane attention could suggest. These supplies were seasonable and acceptable, as not a morsel of food, or any article of sustenance, had been saved.

Mr. Dodwell did not content himself with merely furnishing provisions and assistance. In the course of the day he came himself, to the wreck, attended with a spare palanquin, to accommodate Mrs. Sims and the children, with a conveyance to Madepollam, where they were most hospitably received under his roof. The presence of this gentleman at the Beach, had a favourable effect on the people of the Catamaran—they now ventured on board, and brought on shore the gunner and all the lascars, except two, who were too infirm to admit of the requisite exertion to get on the Catamaran.

Captain Sims and his Officers, now mustered all their strength, to collect the spars and rafts together, and by

covering them with Palmyra leaves to form a shelter from the rain and intensity of sunshine. During the day, further quantities of pepper, benjamin, and packages of silk, were driven on shore from the wreck, to the distance of nearly a league. Those packages of goods, by the assistance of the coolies and peons, furnished by Mr. Dodwell, were collected and brought to the hut. The inhabitants of the adjoining districts were unwilling to afford any assistance; and it was with great difficulty that they could be tempted to work, by very high wages.

On the 17th, Captain Sims prevailed on the people of the Catamaran, and some Telinga lascars, to go off to the wreck, and to cut away the masts and yards, whereby a considerable part of the rigging was saved. As the surf became somewhat moderate towards the evening, the Catamaran happily succeeded in bringing on shore the two invalids, who had remained till this time with the wreck; and thus the life of every individual that belonged to the Agnes, was fortunately saved.

Captain Sims and his Officers remained at the place of the wreck till the 24th of August, actively employed in saving whatever part of the cargo, or ship's stores floated on shore. During the whole of that time, they were exposed to every inclemency of the weather, on a desert beach, without accommodations, suffering greatly from the sand, which was perpetually raised and scattered abroad by the winds. They could not have maintained this painful and fatiguing service, had they not been succoured by the aid, unceasingly afforded by Mr. Dodwell. He sent them daily supplies of provisions and wines; and furnished them with coolies and peons; and to his kind interference is to be ascribed the success that attended their exertions in saving, and securing from pillage, such parts of the cargo and ship's stores as drifted on shore.

December 1.—The right honourable the governor-general in council is pleased to direct, that agreeably to the request of captain R. Hay, commanding the honourable company's ship Astell, the following letter be published for general information.

On this occasion his lordship in council deems it proper to express his entire conviction, both that the statement of facts contained in captain Hay's letter is correct, and that every practical exertion of zeal and gallantry was employed by captain Hay, and the officers, seamen, and soldiers under his direction, to support the unequal contest in which the honourable company's ships Ceylon, Windham, and Astell, were engaged with a very superior force of the enemy on the 3d of July.

In affording this public testimony of the just sense which government entertains of the merits of captain Hay, his lordship in council cannot refrain from expressing his concern at the severity and duration of that gallant officer's sufferings under the wound which he received in the late engagement.

By order of the right honourable the governor-general-in-council.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to Govt.

Calcutta, December 1, 1810.

To N.B. Edmonstone, Esq. Chief Secretary to government.

Sir,—Having seen in the Calcutta gazette the French official account of the action of the 3d of July, in which it is asserted, that the Astell struck her colours, and availing herself of the darkness of the night, effected her escape, I deem it my indispensable duty to state to you, for the information of the right honourable the governor-general in council, that the accusation is false, and that so far from the Astell's colours ever having been hauled down, three ensigns were kept flying until the following morning, and the light was kept abroad, until such time as the enemy could only be seen, by means of their rockets and false fires. I trust I shall be excused mentioning a circumstance, which otherwise I would not do, viz that we commenced the action with our pendant nailed at the mast head, and the ensign at the mizen peak, having been three times shot away, three were displayed, that the enemy

might not for a moment suppose we had struck; this surely did not merit the accusation of having acted contrary to all the rules of honour and of war.

I beg leave to express a wish, that this may be made public.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) R. Hay, commander.

We the undersigned officers of his majesty's 24th regiment, who were on board the Astell, in the action of the 3d of July, hereby declare, that the annexed statement of captain Hay's is correct. (Signed)

J. W. Forster, major 24th foot.
H. White, capt. 24th foot.
T. Craig, capt. 24th inf.
R. Gubbins, capt. H. M.'s 24th foot. J. Ewing, lieut. H. M.'s 24th Inf.
John Maxwell, lieut. H. M.'s 24th infantry.
J. Harris, lieut. 24th foot.
Edward Johnson, assistant surgeon, 24th foot.
William Dacre, ensign, 24th regt.

(A true copy,)

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to Govt.

"Sir,

"It is with extreme regret I have again to lay before you, the circumstances attending the capture of the honourable company's ship Windham, by a French squadron, consisting of two large frigates and a corvette, which we had the misfortune to fall in with, whilst on our passage from the Cape of Good Hope to Madras.

"At day-break, on the morning of the 3d instant, the islands of Mayotta, E. half N. Johanna to the N. W. distance from the nearest shore 12 or 13 leagues, observed three sail to the N. N. E. close hauled on the larboard tack, and under a press of sail towards us. We immediately discovered them to be enemies: our commodore, (captain Meriton, of the Ceylon,) made the signals to haul to the wind, on the starboard tack, and prepare for battle. At two A. M. the wind blowing fresh from the S. S. E. the Astell made the signal for being overpressed with sail, shortened sail in consequence, waited for the enemy. At quarter past two, the largest frigate and corvette within gun-shot to windward, the Ceylon and Windham in close line of battle, the Ceylon the centre, Astell to leeward, and astern of the Ceylon, at half-past two the enemy commenced a heavy and well-directed fire, which was returned by all of us, and continued till half-past four, when the frigate bore down on us, then the head-most and weathermost ship, and having conceived a possibility of boarding, called the hands upon deck for that purpose, making such sail as I could, for the purpose of striking on his larboard quarter, and bringing him along side, but unfortunately, from the impossibility of setting sufficient sail, every thing being so much damaged, he just cleared us by a few yards; sent the hands to quarters again, and kept up a brisk fire with our guns and musquetry, as did the Ceylon and Astell, who were at this time close to leeward of us; at 5, P. M. the frigate's main and mizen masts went close by the caps. The other frigate and corvette at this time on our lee quarter, and coming fast up. At half-past 5, P. M. being now dark, they commenced a heavy fire within pistol shot, our ships at this time in close line, Ceylon in the centre, Windham in the rear; all the ships in close action till half-past six, when the Ceylon bore down, as I supposed, for the purpose of boarding, as the Astell bore down at the same time, and passed close a head of us; got all hands on deck to board, when, on passing, the Ceylon hailed, and informed us she had struck; the Astell made all sail to the W. N. W. and being favoured by the night, effected her escape. Finding ourselves now left alone, and the frigate within hail, keeping up a constant fire, endeavoured to make sail, in the hope of getting away; but there was not a single rope of standing or running rigging left, all the masts, yards, sails, &c. severely wounded in many places, as also nine of our guns rendered unserviceable, sent the hands to quarters again, and kept up a brisk fire until half-past seven P. M. when finding no hopes of the enemy leaving us, and the other frigate coming again

fast up with our ship, now no longer manageable, conceived it an act of humanity to haul down the colours.

"To major-general Weatherall, for that able support I received from him, I shall ever feel myself particularly indebted. To my officers and passengers I shall ever retain a grateful sense of their determined support.

No encomium that I can pass, can do ample justice to the soldiers of his Majesty's 24th regiment, as also to lieutenant Parsonage, the officer who commanded the detachment; indeed, nothing could surpass the determined bravery of all on board; every one seemed animated with the same spirit.

At 8 P.M. was boarded by a boat from the French national frigate La Bellone, commanded by Monsieur Duperre, Capitaine de Vaisseau, commodore of the division, mounting twenty-eight long French eighteen pounders on the main deck, and twenty 42-prs. carronades with two long nines on the quarter deck and forecastle, swivels in the tops, and four hundred men; learned that the other frigate was the Minerve, carrying thirty or eighteen prs. on the main deck, and the same force otherwise as La Bellone, the corvette was the Victor, armed with twenty thirty-two prs. carronades.

The force of the Windham, at the commencement of the action was twenty short eighteen prs. gun deck, and six short sixes on the quarter deck, twelve British seamen, and 130 effective troops, with 100 Lascars. On the following morning (fourth July,) was taken in tow by the frigate La Bellone, and brought to an anchor at this place, in company with the other frigate La Minerve, corvette Victor, and the Ceylon, on the 5th of July. Learned with great regret that Captain Meriton of the Ceylon, and lieutenant-colonel Marriott, of his Majesty's 24th regiment, had been severely wounded in the action, but great hopes are entertained of their recovery.

The following is a list of the killed and wounded of those on board the Windham.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) John Stewart, Captain.

Killed.—Richard Robinson, Seaman.—John Murphy, Jer. Reynolds, 24th regiment. One Lascar.

Wounded.—Corporal Noble, since dead.—Thomas Shaw, Edward Phillips, William Masters, Samuel Smallwood, 24th regiment.—John Chisholme, Richard Aylwards, Alexander Fraser, 71st regiment. Two Lascars.

Total 4 killed, and 10 wounded.

John Stewart,
Captain.

To William Ramsay, Esq. &c.

General orders, by the right honorable the governor-general in council.

Fort William, Dec. 7, 1810.—The right honorable the governor-general in council is pleased to direct, that the following details of a gallant and successful attack upon the united force of Lutchmun Sing, Himmut Sing, and Omrao Sing, the partizans of the marauder Gopaul Sing, conducted by captain Archibald Watson, commanding a detachment in the province of Bundlecund, be published for general information.

The governor-general in council has great pleasure in diffusing a knowledge of every transaction in which the officers and men, in the military service of the honourable company, have had an opportunity of manifesting their characteristic spirit of bravery and exertion, and on the present occasion his lordship in council discharges, with peculiar satisfaction, the duty of rendering justice to the skill and judgment displayed by captain Watson, in planning the attack on the enemy's force, and to his activity, zeal, and gallantry, and those of the officers and troops under his command, in carrying it into effect with such signal success.

The governor-general in council desires, that his acknowledgments be conveyed to captain Watson, and to lieutenants Duncan, Maxwell, Jeffereys, Colquhoun, and Waugh, and Cornet Boutein, whose exertions are particularly noticed in captain Watson's report, for their distinguished services on this occasion; and generally to the officers and men of the detachment, for the spirit of persevering zeal and gallantry which they displayed in the execution of this well-

concerted enterprize. His lordship in council also deems it proper to notice in terms of public approbation, the gallant action performed by Ally Nucky Beg, as described in captain Watson's report.

By order of the right honorable the governor-general in council.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief sec. to govt.

To Lieutenant Colonel Brown, commanding the troops, &c. &c.

Sir,

I have the honour to acquaint you, that after two forced marches from Aumghaut, (which we left on the 17th) we came up with the enemy, just as morning dawned on the 19th, at the the village of Bohmory, or Bowony, distant 2½ coss to the westward of Buskswaho. They had heard of our approach from Aumghaut, but did not expect us so soon. They had divided their force, forming two well-chosen positions, within 300 or 400 yards of each other; one post consisting of all their cavalry, and from 4 to 500 Infantry, under Lutchmun and Himmut Sing, occupying a grove of trees, surrounded by a very deep ravine, and the other of 2 or 300 Infantry, at the village of Bohmory, under (as was said,) Omrao Sing the nephew of Gopaul.

As we had correct information of the situation of the ground in their vicinity, the disposition for the attack had been previously arranged--as soon, therefore, as the lights of the grove were seen, the cavalry advanced at a gallop round the grove, between it and the village, and passed the ravine about 150 yards to the right of the former. By this time, the enemy's cavalry had formed, their infantry having commenced a smart but ill directed fire, as we crossed the ravine, and seemed inclined to stand, not knowing, I presume, the object of this detour on their right, or that we were aware of the ravine, but the moment they perceived it, they began to move off. A general charge was immediately made, our flanks being covered each by a subdivision, which, according to the disposition for the attack, had orders to pursue full speed, supported by the regular advance, as fast as possible, of the main body—but such was the general ardor, that it was impossible, as is too often the case, to restrain it, and we passed over 5 or 6 coss of ground before Rein could be pulled up, destroying a great part of the enemy's cavalry, amongst whom were several of the inferior chiefs, but I much regret that Himmut and Lutchmun Sing are said to have escaped, and Omrao Sing had, as was afterwards found, gone off in the night.

In the mean time, the infantry, supported by the galloper, had advanced towards the grove; two companies in open columns, and the remaining two in one line, or grand division, at the same distance, in their rear. The enemy's infantry opened a smart fire upon them, which did no execution, and continued it, till the column deploying in consequence of the ravine, and advancing with recovered arms, having orders not to fire a shot till within twenty paces of the enemy, gave a close discharge in line, which, with a round or two from the galloper, fell so heavy, that they broke immediately and dispersed on all sides. At this moment much execution was done, and had the ravine not retarded extremely the passage of the infantry into the grove, I am persuaded very few of the enemy would have escaped. The cavalry returning from the pursuit, cut up many of the stragglers. As soon as the infantry had carried the grove, and totally dispersed the enemy, they halted, as further pursuit by them would have been improper, the officers and men being much fatigued; and as the village was yet to be stormed, many of the enemy's infantry had retreated into it.

Within the village was a brick buckree, new and in perfect repair, which would have been impregnable to our force, had the enemy known how to defend it; they kept up a smart, but ill-directed, fire upon the infantry as they advanced, until they arrived under cover of the houses of the village, and having placed the galloper

opposite one of the gates, a shot or two so terrified the enemy, that they immediately called for quarter, and surrendered at discretion; from twenty to thirty of the enemy were killed in the village Buckree before they surrendered. It would be difficult to do justice to the merits of lieutenant Duncan, who commanded the infantry, as well as lieutenants Maxwell, Jeffreys, and Colquhoun, on this occasion; but when it is considered that they and the men were much fatigued before they first saw the enemy, their persevering spirit, I doubt not, will be fully appreciated. Lieutenant Waugh, and Cornet Boutein, acted with their usual gallantry, as did all the native officers and men of the detachment of cavalry; Ally Necky Beg, Jemidar of the 6th troop, narrowly escaped the spear of one of the enemy's sirdars, who attacked him. He carried our standard, with the pike of which he unhorsed him, and the next moment he laid him dead on the field.

The enemy have lost, on this occasion, on the most correct calculation, upwards of 200 killed and wounded, and 100 prisoners: of the latter I have detained only six, who are said to be chiefs of note under Gopaul, and some of them personally related to him and to Lutchmun Sing. A great quantity of matchlocks, swords, spears, baggage, bullocks, horses, &c. have fallen into our hands. The Buckree we have destroyed, and should also have fired the village, but from motives of humanity to the wounded.

I regret extremely we have no assistant surgeon on the same account, as their wounds, many of which require amputation, can only be dressed, and are consequently become mortal.

It was my intention, until I had seen the ground, to have first attacked the village; but circumstances were such, that we should only have lost time, as the village lay 400 yards further off the point of our approach than the grove.

After leaving Ramnaghur, I had intelligence of 250 cavalry, and a body of Matchlocks belonging to the chief of Chercorree, being at Heerahpore, intending to join us. I instantly sent them orders to be at Buckswaho, and acquainted the chief, that we should be at that place during the night. But although they had several hours more than enough, they did not join us till late in the evening of the 19th. Had these people come up, it was my intention to have formed two separate bodies of cavalry, and left one of them to cut up the enemy's infantry on their dispersion. But as they did not, my attention was entirely directed to the operations in the grove, till, contrary to my expectation, their cavalry at once separated from the infantry, and could be attended with no hazard. It is my duty to say, that had the Chercorree chief's people done their duty, it is extremely probable the enemy's force, cavalry and infantry, would have been totally destroyed.

My further operations will be according to the intelligence I may receive; at present I am of opinion that my force should be augmented, as the enemy are concentrating again in different directions, and for other reasons which I shall hereafter explain in detail. An assistant surgeon is also absolutely necessary, and I consider my detachment in some degree inefficient without one.

List of casualties in the attack of the enemy's partizans at Bohmory.

Infantry—1 man wounded.
5th troop 1st Nat. cavalry—1 man wounded.
6th ditto. ditto. 1 ditto.

HORSES.

5th troop, 1 killed and 1 wounded.
6th ditto, 1 ditto, 2 ditto.
Ditto, ditto, ditto, missing.

I have the honour, &c. &c.
(Signed) AR. H. WATSON,
Capt. commanding a detachment.

Bohmory, November 20, 1810.

P. S. I should have reported yesterday, but having left all our baggage in Buckswaho, (whose chief accompanied us to Bohmory) it was out of my power. The delay has been absolutely unavoidable. (A True Copy.)

(Signed) G. S. BROWN, Lt.-col.
(A True Copy.)
(Signed) J. RICHARDSON, A. G. G.
(A True Copy.)
N. B. EDMONSTONE,
Chief Sec. to Govt.

Dec. 15th.—Intelligence from Ghazeepore mentions the arrival of major-general Champagne, at that place, on the 28th ultimo. On the 29th, he reviewed his majesty's 67th regiment, near 1000 strong, and expressed much satisfaction at the different manœuvres, which they performed with great precision. The general proceeded early on the 30th to Cawnpore.

Dec. 19.—The fine large ship, the Russell, launched at this port about eighteen months ago, and lately purchased by the Philippine company, was ordered, upon her arrival at Manilla, to undergo the ceremony of purification. For the due performance of that solemnity, all the Europeans and Lascars, and indeed every living creature that belonged to her, while in the hands of the heretics, were taken out; the host was then carried on board; holy water profusely sprinkled, and the ship in due form purified from all the relics and contagious leaven, with which she might be supposed to have been polluted by her former possessors.

Copy of the summons made by his excellency the captain general, to the commodore commanding his Britannic majesty's frigate the Iphigenia, and the battery of the Isle of Passe, before Port Imperial of the Isle of France.

On board the frigate, of his Majesty I. and king, the Minerva, Aug. 27, 1810.

Sir,—In consequence of your enterprise of the 23d of this month with our squadron against the frigates of his majesty the emperor of the French, king of Italy, &c. the Bellona and Minerva anchored in this port, you are reduced to the most critical position, you can hope for no change of fortune, as on one hand I have given orders to a superior force to keep you strictly blockaded, and on the other hand, you cannot expect deliverance, as, for several months, a sufficient number of frigates of his Britannic majesty cannot be expected to cope with the superior force which I have at this moment at my disposal. This frightful situation, in which you find yourself, with a great number of your countrymen, in consequence of your being obliged to set fire to two of your frigates, having now no other refuge but the Iphigenia, which you cannot repair, and a barren rock where you have no asylum for the great number of your wounded, and where, in a very short time you will be without means of existence, such great calamities of which you already suffer so much, ought to convince you, commodore, that all idea of resistance will be deceitful and inhuman; consequently, I summon you in the name of his majesty the emperor my master, to surrender yourself prisoner of war with your crews, also the battery of the Isle of Passe, to restore to his Majesty, the Emperor, absolutely untouched, the batteries, arms, ships, ammunition, in short, every thing which is established for the defence of this post, likewise to give up to my disposal his Britannic majesty's frigate the Iphigenia, without any injury whatever, but such as she may have received in the action in which she has shared.

But if, contrary to my expectation, you defer but one hour to surrender yourself to the condition prescribed, you are not to expect from me any clemency, whether you and your people perish with hunger and misery, or if I undertake to reduce you, which will be quickly executed, all will be put to the edge of the sword.

I have now only to exhort you, commodore, not to compel me to execute towards yourself and those whom you command, either of the desperate extremities, with which I have just threatened you.

The captain general,
(Signed) Decaen.

Copy of commodore Lambert's answer to his excellency the captain-general.

On board his majesty's frigate the Iphigenia, August 28, 1810.

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter on the painful subject of a capitulation. I transmit to you, enclosed, a copy of a correspondence which has taken place between captain Hamelin and myself, and I have

too high an opinion of your excellency's honour, to suppose you will make any change in it, except what may result from not perfectly well understanding the French language.

I have the honour to remain,
Your excellency's most humble,
and most obedient servant,
(Signed) TH. LAMBERT.

Copy of the summons made by captain Hamelin, commanding a division of the naval forces of H. M: I. and K. to his Britanic majesty's commander of the fort at the Isle of Passe, together with the Iphigenia frigate.

SIR,

That I may not augment the loss in men which you have already sustained without hope of success, in the service of the king your master, I engage you to surrender at discretion, otherwise, with the four ships under my command, I shall moor myself across the bay, and reduce you indubitably.

I have the honour to remain,
(Signed) E. HAMELIN.

On board the Venus, Aug. 27, 1810.

Copy of commodore Lambert's answer to captain Hamelin's summons.

Isle of Passe, Aug. 28, 1810.

SIR,

The fortune of war is always doubtful; we cannot surrender at discretion an island and a frigate so well armed, under every circumstance. But as you express a desire to stop the effusion of blood, we offer to capitulate on the following terms:

That the island shall be surrendered in its actual state; that the Iphigenia frigate may be allowed to depart with all her crews for any port you may name, belonging to the British government.

I have the honour to remain, &c.
(Signed) T. LAMBERT.

Copy of the second summons made by captain Hamelin to commodore Lambert.

On board the Venus, Aug. 28, 1810.

SIR,

Were not all resistance to my forces vain, I esteem you too much to propose the contrary, but for the sake of your wounded, you ought to fear the fire of four frigates; surrender at discretion the Iphigenia frigate and the fort of the Isle of Passe, let the French flag be hoisted at sun-rise, you will be all prisoners of war, but sent immediately on parole, or exchange to one of his Britannic majesty's forts.

I have the honour to remain, &c.
(Signed) E. HAMELIN.

Copy of commodore Lambert's answer to captain Hamelin.

On board his majesty's frigate the Iphigenia, before the Isle of Passe, August 28, 1810.

SIR,

I had hoped, and was almost certain, that the honourable proposals which I made yesterday evening would have been accepted. But under existing circumstances, his majesty's ship the Iphigenia, with the fort of the Isle of Passe, will be surrendered to you tomorrow morning at ten o'clock. The French government will undertake to provide sound vessels for the transportation of the Iphigenia's men, with the garrison of the Isle of Passe, to the Cape of Good Hope, or any English port you may name, in a month hence, or sooner if possible.

I have the honour to remain, &c.
(Signed) TH. LAMBERT.

Copy of his excellency, the captain-general's letter to commodore Lambert.

On the frigate of H. M. I. and K. he Minerva, Aug. 28, 1810.

SIR,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the reply you have made to my letters, as well as the communication enclosed of your correspondence and proposals to captain Hamelin. It is impossible for me, Sir, to accede entirely to the favour you ask of being sent to one of his Britannic majesty's ports, with the crew of the Iphigenia, and the garrison of the Isle of Passe. But in order to give you a new proof of French generosity and loyalty, I consent to send you, in a month hence, either to England, or to the Cape of Good Hope, in sound vessels, on condition that you are not to serve against the emperor my master, until you have been regularly exchanged; you will give me two hostages, which I shall name, as a pledge for the execution of the last article of capitulation which I grant you.

If, as I flatter myself, you are ready to subscribe to the above conditions, I

invite you, commodore, to open a free communication between myself and Mr. Hamelin, in order to execute as soon as possible the conditions which shall be regularly drawn out. According to which I have stated my authority to captain Hamelin, by my dispatches which I have addressed to him. I have the honour to salute you.

The captain general;
(Signed) DECAEN.
A true copy,
(Signed) BERNARD, *sec.*

DEC. 22.—At the annual election of two directors of the bank of Bengal, Joseph Barretto, esq. and T. D. Porcher, esq. were selected for the ensuing year.

At the sale of the company's Madeira at the import warehouse on Monday, the London market yielded from 500 to 510 rupees, and the India market from 425 to 440 rupees. About 200 pipes were sold. The Opium sale commenced to day, and 2,484 chests were put up.

DEC. 26.—Late accounts from Hindoostan contain no particular intelligence, except what relates to the extraordinary malady which, to the dismay of all the inhabitants in the vicinity of Scindea's camp, continues to afflict the wife of Appa Kundrah, a person of great rank and authority at the court of that chieftain. This lady has, it seems, for a long time past, been troubled with a snake between her shoulders, which, at the expiration of every third or fourth year, puts forth its head, and continues to torment her, until it is gorged to its liking with human livers. The livers of young children are deemed more particularly efficacious, in appeasing its ravenous appetite. And, such is Appa Kandra's affection for his spouse, or such his disregard for the rest of human kind, and, at the same time, so great is his influence at court, that he has obtained permission, to keep horsemen constantly on the look-out, in the environs of the camp, for stray children or youths to supply food for this snake. The circumstance altogether has naturally excited extreme alarm in the neighbourhood; but, notwithstanding every precaution on the part of the inhabitants, it is well known, that one unfortunate boy had actually been caught and sacrificed, for the horrid purpose in question.

The real disease, to which the Natives have attached this fabulous and revolting theory, is supposed to be a cancerous sore.

BENGAL
Occurrences for January, 1811.

JANUARY 2.—Workmen are employed in the construction of a complete range of pucka barracks for the accommodation of the corps of artillery at Dumdum. The buildings are to be one story in height, are to be ranged in the form of a square, and will be ready for the reception of the men, (who, during the season of practice, have hitherto been accommodated in tents only,) in the course of the ensuing year.

JANUARY 4.---The detachment under the command of colonel Brown, on service in Berar, continues to pursue Gopaul Sing by rapid and incessant marches. They have hitherto failed, however, in their endeavours to overtake the main body of that chieftain's forces. A small party of his infantry was intercepted and cut to pieces, in the morning of the 21st ultimo; and, in the course of the same day, a body of his horse was descried by a detachment of our cavalry, and the whole were destroyed, after a pursuit of about five miles.

Major Kelly, with the light detachment under his command, has moved from the cantonments at Lohargong, and taken up a position to co-operate with colonel Brown's force.

JAN. 5.---The whole Battee country has surrendered, without resistance, to the force commanded by colonel Adams. The principal chieftain, Zabetee Khan, had delivered himself up, and, at the date of the last accounts, was in the British camp. The troops were expected immediately to return to Hansee and Kurnal.

JAN. 7.---The Modeste frigate, is not expected to get to sea, be-

fore the end of the current month. The quantity of treasure ordered for shipment to Bombay on this vessel, amounts, in all, to 80 lacs of rupees, viz. 60 lacs in money, and 20 lacs in uncoined bullion.

The following correspondence reflects much credit on the conduct of captain Heming, of the honourable company's ship, Earl Spencer.

To captain G. Heming, commander of the honourable company's ship, Earl Spencer. Public department.

SIR,

I am directed by the right honourable the governor-general in council to transmit to you the subjoined copy of a letter from the captain of his majesty's ship Leda, and to inform you, that his lordship in council has received, with the utmost satisfaction, this testimony in favour of your conduct throughout your late voyage to India.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
(Signed) H. ST. G. TUCKER.
Sec. to the govt.

Fort-William, Dec. 28, 1810.

H. St. G. Tucker, Esq. Secretary to government, public department.

SIR,

I request permission to submit to his excellency the right honourable the governor-general in council, this public testimony (from myself and officers of his majesty's ship during the passage in charge of the fleet from England to Bengal,) in favour of the honourable East India company's ship, Earl Spencer.

The vigilance invariably by day and night preserved on board her, very soon attracted notice, marking all captain Heming's measures by a zeal that demands this distinguished mention of an active mind, ever on the watch for opportunities to promote the good of the whole, and as certainly, (when they offered,) rendering conspicuous this officer's judgment and worth.

I have the honour, &c.
(Signed) G. SAYER, captain.

His majesty's ship Leda, Kedgeree, Dec. 15, 1810.

(A true copy,)
(Signed) H. ST. G. TUCKER,
Sec. to govt.

JANUARY 18th. — The valuable island of Ternate, surrendered to his majesty's arms, about the end of September. This welcome intelligence was received at the presidency late on Tuesday evening, by letters from Amboyna, of the beginning of October.

This valuable acquisition was effected by a small detachment of the Madras European corps, and the crew of the Dover frigate, commanded by that gallant and enterprising officer captain Tucker, with the trivial loss of a few lives only.

The detachment of the European corps employed on this service, was conducted by captain Forbes, on whom the command of the island had devolved.

JAN. 20.—The discontents among the inhabitants of Benares, have not yet so entirely subsided as the previous accounts inferred. Though no acts of violence had been committed, and though many of the shops in the city had been again opened, the populace continued still to assemble in tumultuous bodies, and to shew an inclination to oppose the introduction of the new tax. A deputation had been appointed, and was to leave Benares on the 19th current for Calcutta, charged with a representation on the subject from their fellow citizens to the supreme government. The expences of this deputation was to be defrayed by a voluntary subscription, which had been raised among the more wealthy inhabitants.

The proclamation of government addressed to the rioters, was received at Benares about the 17th instant. This proclamation was to be read to the mob; and, in the event of its failing of the desired effect, it was resolved to disperse them by force, and to arrest the ringleaders. Some circumstances, had prevented the immediate adoption of these measures; but the delay was not likely to be of long duration.

A battalion of Sepoys had marched from Lucknow to Benares.

Fort William, January 25, 1811.

General orders by the right honourable the governor-general in council.

The right honourable the governor-

general in council has the satisfaction to announce to the public, the arrival of dispatches brought to Madras by captain Barlow, on his majesty's frigate Cornelia, containing the intelligence of the surrender of the isle of France to the arms of his majesty and the honourable company, on the 3d of December.

The details of the operations which terminated in the achievement of this important conquest, have not yet been received.

Order,—that a royal salute be immediately fired from the ramparts of Fort William, and a feu de joie by the troops in garrison, in honor of this occasion.

Extra Batta to be served out to the troops in garrison.

By order of the right honorable the governor-general in council.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief sec. to govt.

The official dispatches to the supreme government, were sent off from the isle of France by the Thetis cruizer, direct for Bengal, two days before the Cornelia sailed. The letters now received refer for the detailed account of operations to the letters transmitted by the Thetis: but few particulars are mentioned in the advices forwarded by way of Madras.

Jan. 28.—The right honorable the governor-general has issued invitations to a ball and supper, on Monday next, the 4th of February, " to celebrate " the conquest of the islands of Bour- " bon and Mauritius."

Jan. 29.—Several ships belonging to Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, were engaged by governor Farquhar at the Mauritius, for the purpose of conveying to France, the late French garrison under general Decaen, according to the terms of capitulation.

Benares, Jan. 29.—Oudit Narain, rajah of Benares, a man remarkable for his firm and steady attachment to the British government, has exerted his influence in the present instance; and thousands of poor wretches who had abandoned their houses in consequence of the new tax, have returned to the city. All the topes are evacuated---the shops are again open, and every thing is perfectly quiet. They have, it is reported, thrown themselves on the mercy and justice of government; entreating most earnestly that the condition of the poorer classes may be taken into gracious consideration. Had they adopted this regular and respectful mode at the outset, it would have done the holy city more honor---but that is not the fashion of the east.

It is perhaps fortunate for the cause of humanity, that the friendly offices of the rajah have so effectually recalled these deluded citizens to a sense of duty.

Mr. Bird, the city magistrate, has signified officially to major-general M'Donald, commanding the district, that there is now no occasion whatever for the presence of his majesty's 67th regiment. However, the general wishes to pause a little, to see how matters go on, but it is generally supposed the regiment will very shortly return to Ghazipore.

BENGAL
Occurrences for February, 1811.

General Orders.

Feb. 1.—Major-general Macan received great satisfaction from the review of the body guard this morning. Their movements were correct and rapid throughout, and in the performance of the sword exercise, and attack and defence at speed, they shewed great proficiency and excellent horsemanship. He will have great pleasure in reporting most favourably to the governor-general the successful exertions of captain Gall, and the officers of his guard, in bringing it to its present high state of discipline, and he hopes that the service on which they have honorably solicited to be sent, may offer an opportunity for the display of that zeal and gallantry, which has prompted them to seek it.

At twenty minutes past two P. M. a severe shock of an earthquake was very sensibly felt throughout the settlement. It continued for the space of nearly thirty seconds; the

motion of the earth was more severe than any thing of the kind ever remembered to have been experienced.

FEBRUARY 2.—A deputation from the merchants of Calcutta, composed of the following gentlemen, viz. Alexander Colvin, John Palmer, J. D. Alexander, J. H. Ferguson, Robert Downie, James Mactaggart, Joseph Barretto, John Robertson, James Scott William Hollings, and Johannes Sarkies, esqrs. waited on the governor-general on Saturday last, and presented an address to his lordship, on the success of the British arms in the conquest of the Mauritius. The address, of which the following is a copy, was read by Mr. Colvin.

To the right honorable Lord Minto, Governor-General, &c. Fort William.

MY LORD,

It is with the liveliest feelings of satisfaction, we now most respectfully address your lordship, to offer our sincere congratulations on the capture of the only remaining French colony in the east, which has for so many years past been the source of devastation to the commerce of India, to a magnitude almost exceeding belief.

The accession of this most important place to the British dominions, with so small a loss, most strongly evinces the vigour and wisdom of the measure adopted by your lordship, to secure the object, with the least possible effusion of blood.

Contemplating, as we do, the acquisition of the French Islands, as of the very first importance to the commercial interest of India, and to the political influence of our native country, as they form the maritime key of the East, and being desirous that their conquest should be perpetuated, as having been achieved under your lordship's auspices, we, with that view, take the liberty to request, that your lordship will do us the honour of sitting for a portrait, to be placed in the council chamber, as a memorial of our gratitude on the happy occasion.

We further beg to be honoured with your lordship's company, on the evening of the 14th of February, at an entertainment which we are solicitous to give to your lordship at Moore's rooms, in celebration of this important and most beneficial event.

"In conclusion, we beg that your Lordship will accept the offer of our most cordial wishes, that your lordship may long enjoy the highly-merited approbation of your king and country, with the blessings of health and happiness, in all your private relations of life.

We remain, most respectfully,
My lord,
Your lordship's most obedient,
and humble servants,
(Signed by the principal merchants and agents of Calcutta.)

Calcutta, January 31, 1811.

To which his lordship was pleased to make the following reply.

GENTLEMEN,

"I am extremely gratified by this mark of your regard. I flatter myself you will believe, that the hope of rendering what appeared to myself a benefit of considerable importance to the public, has been the sole motive which induced me to undertake the measure of which you are pleased to take such honourable notice. I am, at the same time, by no means ashamed to avow, that I am not insensible to the good opinion and approbation of the public, more especially of that highly respectable part of the community which you represent. On this, indeed, I set the greater value, as it bears the testimony of an enlightened body of men, that the event which has lately happened may be expected to have a salutary influence on the trade and navigation of this port and city, as well, I hope, as of India at large.

"I accept very gratefully the entertainment you are so good as to offer me. With regard to your request for my portrait to be placed in the council chamber, I think myself much honoured by it, and shall feel a pride, as well as pleasure, in obeying your commands.

"I cannot take leave, without begging you to accept my acknowledgments for the handsome and gratifying manner in which you have performed this very flattering commission."

FORT-WILLIAM, FEBRUARY 9, 1811.
General orders by the right honourable the governor-general in council.

The official report of the operations of his majesty's and the honourable company's naval and military forces, which terminated in the entire reduction of the Isle of France and its dependencies, and the surrender of the whole of the enemy's naval force and shipping at that station, having now been received, the right honourable the governor-general in council is pleased to direct, that it be published for general information.

The governor-general in council congratulates the British community of India on the achievement of this important conquest, which, by extinguishing the power so long possessed and so successfully exercised by the enemy, of maintaining a predatory warfare in the Indian seas, has given security to navigation and commerce, and augmented the sources of external strength and internal prosperity in this quarter of the British dominions, while it has added a territory not less valuable, in a political than in a commercial point of view, to the colonial possessions of the crown.

The governor-general in council avails himself of this opportunity of publicly expressing his high and grateful sense of that spirit of animated zeal for the interest and glory of his country, which induced his excellency lieutenant-general the honourable John Abercromby to accept the command of the troops destined to undertake the conquest of the Isle of France. His lordship in council ascribes, in a material degree, the success of that enterprise, to the indefatigable exertions and professional judgment of that able and distinguished officer, manifested equally in procuring the most accurate information relative to the local circumstances and defences of the island and its capital, and in his skilful and judicious arrangements for the previous disposition of the troops, and subsequent operations of the field; and his lordship in council fulfils, with the highest satisfaction, the duty of expressing his public thanks and acknowledgments to lieutenant-general Abercromby for the important service which he has rendered on this occasion, to the interests of the British nation, and of the honourable the East India Company.

The governor-general in council also considers his public acknowledgments to be eminently due to Major-general Warde, the second in command, for his zealous exertions and his personal courage and activity in conducting the advance of the troops, and animating them by his example.

His lordship in council justly appreciates the distinguished merits of the several officers, whose individual exertions, have obtained the honour of lieutenant-general Abercromby's particular applause, while he contemplates also with sentiments of the highest approbation, the ardent zeal, and bravery, displayed by the whole of the officers and men engaged in the attack, and their exemplary patience under the severe fatigues and privations which attended their advance to the capital of the Island. To the imposing energy, indefatigable exertion, and rapid movements of the troops, must be ascribed their unresisted progress through a country peculiarly favourable to the measures of defence, and proportionably disadvantageous to the operations of an invading army.

The governor-general in council's satisfaction at the success which has crowned the efforts of his Majesty's and the honourable company's arms in this short but brilliant campaign, is enhanced by the reflection, that, the loss which has attended it is greatly inferior to that which the difficulties of the enterprize and the means of defence afforded reason to apprehend. This additional advantage must be principally attributed to the judicious arrangements of the commander of the forces, and to the promptitude and energy with which they were carried into effect, by the brave officers and men under his command. By the united effects of ability in the plan of attack, and activity in the execution of it, the enemy was happily pre-

vented from forming those dispositions which would have rendered the contest more sanguinary, and have added to the number of those who have fallen, honored and lamented, in the service of their country. Among these, the governor-general in council observes, with deep regret, the names of those valuable and distinguished officers, lieutenant-colonel Campbell, of his Majesty's 33d, and major O'Keefe, of his Majesty's 12th, regiment of foot. Their merits are well known to his lordship in council: each has closed a life of honour and utility in the hour of victory, to which they led the way, and their loss will long be felt both as a public and private misfortune.

Although it belongs to a higher authority to bestow the tribute of merited applause on the naval branch of the armament which has achieved this important conquest, yet the governor-general in council cannot consider himself to be precluded by the restrictions of official form, from the privilege of publicly expressing his obligations to his excellency vice-admiral Bertie, for the alacrity and zeal with which his excellency seconded the views and arrangements of this government, directed to the reduction of the Isle of France, and afforded the advantages of his personal exertions, in the maritime operations of the enterprize, and of testifying the high sense which this government entertains of the value and importance of his excellency's co-operation, and of the essential services rendered on this occasion, by the several meritorious and distinguished naval officers, whose exertions, with those of the seamen and marines landed from the squadron, have justly claimed the acknowledgments of the commander of the military forces. The indispensable aid of the navy, both in the measures and arrangement preparatory to the execution of the enterprize, and in the dispositions immediately connected with the attack, has been afforded with all the promptitude, zeal, and professional ability, that uniformly characterize the conduct of British seamen on every occasion of active service, and have elevated the naval power of the British nation to its present height of glory and renown.

The governor general in council cannot advert to this subject without calling to mind, with sentiments of just admiration, the many and important services rendered by that distinguished officer, Commodore Rowley, during the long period of time that he held the command of the squadron employed in the blockade of the French Islands, but especially in the operations which attended the reduction of the Isle of Bourbon, and in those most able and judicious exertions by which he retrieved the losses sustained in the gallant attack of the enemy's frigates in Grand Port in the month of August last.

The connection which the eminent services of Commodore Rowley have with the late successful expeditions, appears to the governor-general in council, to warrant this public declaration of his sentiments of acknowledgment and applause.

The governor-general in council further discharges a satisfactory obligation of his public duty, by expressing his acknowledgments for the zealous and essential co-operation afforded by his excellency, vice-admiral, Drury in supplying provisions for the consumption of the troops, in providing for the embarkation of a considerable body of them on board of his Majesty's ships, and in devoting so large a proportion of the squadron under his command, to the service of the expedition.

The governor-general in council also entertains a high sense of the solicitude manifested by his excellency to promote the objects of the enterprize, by proceeding to the French Islands with a view to afford the advantages of his excellency's personal co-operation.

By order of the right honourable the governor-general in council,

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to the Govt.

To the right honorable Gilbert, lord Minto, governor-general, &c.&c.

My Lord,

I had the honor to inform your lordship, in my dispatch of the 21st ultimo,

that although the divisions from Bengal and the Cape of Good Hope had not arrived at the rendezvous, it had been determined that the fleet should proceed to sea on the following morning, as from the advanced season of the year, and the threatening appearance of the weather, the ships could no longer be considered secure in their anchorage at Rodrigues, and I did myself the honor to state to your lordship the measures which it was my intention to pursue, even if we should still be disappointed in not being joined by so large a part of the armament.

Early on the morning of the 22d, vice-admiral Bertie received a communication from captain Broughton, of his majesty's ship Illustrious, announcing his arrival off the island, with the convoy from Bengal. The fleet weighed at day-light as had been originally arranged, and in the course of that day a junction having been formed with this division, the fleet bore up for the Isle of France.

The greatest obstacles opposed to an attack on this island, with a considerable force, have invariably been considered to depend on the difficulty of effecting a landing from the reefs which surround every part of the coast, and the supposed impossibility of being enabled to find anchorage for the fleet of transports.

These difficulties were fortunately removed by the indefatigable exertions of commodore Rowley, assisted by lieutenant Street, of the Staunch gun-brig, lieutenant Blackiston, of the Madras engineers, and the masters of his majesty's ships Africaine and Boadicea. Every part of the leeward side of the island was minutely examined and sounded, and it was discovered that a fleet might anchor in the narrow passage formed by the small island of the gunner's coin and the main land, and that in this spot there were openings through the reefs, which would admit several boats to enter abreast.

These obvious advantages fixed my determination, although I regretted that circumstances would not allow of the disembarkation being effected at a shorter distance from Port Louis.

Owing to light and baffling winds, the fleet did not arrive in sight of the islands until the 28th, and it was the forenoon of the following day, before any of the ships came to an anchor.

Every arrangement for the disembarkation having been previously made, the 1st division, consisting of the reserve, the grenadier company of his majesty's 59th regiment, two 6-pounders and two howitzers, under the command of general Warde, effected a landing in the bay of Mapon, without the smallest opposition. The enemy having retired from Fort Malartic, situated at the head of Grand Bay, and the nearest point to which they occupied.

As soon as a sufficient part of the European force had been formed, it became necessary to move forward, as the first five miles of the road lay through a very thick wood, which made it an object of the utmost importance not to give the enemy time to occupy it.

Lieutenant - colonel Smith having been left with his brigade to cover the landing place, with orders to follow next morning, the column marched about four o'clock, and succeeded in gaining the more open country; without any efforts having been made by the enemy to retard our progress, a few shots only having been fired by a small piquet, by which lieutenant-colonel Keating, lieutenant Ash, of his majesty's 12th regiment, and a few men of the advance guard, were wounded.

Having halted for a few hours during the night, the army again moved forward before day-light with the intention of not halting till arrived before Port Louis; but the troops having become extremely exhausted, not only from the exertions which they had already made, but from having been almost totally deprived of water, of which this part of the country is destitute, I was compelled to take up a position at the Moulin a Poudre, about five miles short of the town.

Early the next morning, lieutenant-colonel M'Leod with his brigade, was detached to seize the batteries at Tam-

beau and Tortue bays, and open a communication with the fleet, as it had been previously arranged that we were to draw our supplies from these two points.

The main body of the army, soon after it had moved off its ground, was attacked by a corps of the enemy, who, with several field pieces, had taken a strong position, very favourable for attempting to make an impression on the head of the column, as it shewed itself on arriving at the end of a narrow road, with a thick wood on each flank. The European flank battalion which formed the advanced guard, under the command of lieutenant-colonel Campbell of the 33d regiment, and under the general direction of general Warde, formed with as much regularity, as the bad and broken ground would admit of, charged the enemy with the greatest spirit, and compelled him to retire with the loss of his guns, and many killed and wounded. This advantage was obtained by the fall of lieutenant-colonel Campbell, a most excellent and valuable officer; as well as major O'Keefe, of the 12th regiment, whom I have also every reason sincerely to regret.

In the course of the forenoon, the army occupied a position in front of the enemy's lines, just beyond the range of cannon shot. On the following morning, while I was occupied in making arrangements for detaching a corps to the southern side of the town, and placing myself in a situation to make a general attack, general De Caen proposed to capitulate; many of the articles appeared to vice-admiral Bertie and myself to be perfectly inadmissible; but the French governor having, in the course of the same day, acceded to our terms, a capitulation for the surrender of this colony and its dependencies, was finally concluded.

Your lordship will perceive, that the capitulation is in strict conformity with the spirit of your instructions, with the single exception that the garrison is not to be made prisoners of war.

Although the determined courage and high state of discipline of the army, which your lordship has done me the honour to place under my command, could leave not the smallest doubt in my mind in respect to the issue of an attack upon the town, I was nevertheless prevailed upon to acquiesce in this indulgence being granted to the enemy, from the desire of sparing the lives of many brave officers and soldiers, and out of regard to the interests of the inhabitants of this island, who have long laboured under the most degrading misery and oppression, added to the late period of the season, when every hour became valuable. I considered these to be motives of much more national importance, than any injury that would arise from a small body of troops at so remote a distance from Europe, being permitted to return to their own country free from any engagement. In every other particular we have gained all which could have been acquired if the town had been carried by assault.

During the course of this short service, the enemy has not afforded an opportunity to the army in general, for displaying the ardent zeal and animated courage with which every individual is inspired, but it is nevertheless my duty to represent to your lordship, in the strongest terms, the men of every corps under my command. The officers and men (Europeans as well as natives,) have cheerfully and patiently submitted to the greatest privations and fatigues. During the advance of the army, the troops were unable, for the space of twenty four hours, to procure a sufficient supply of water, but this trying circumstance did not produce a single murmur or the smallest mark of discontent or disappointment.

I feel myself particularly indebted to lieutenant-colonels Picton, Gibbs, Kelly, Keating, M'Leod, and Smith, who commanded the different brigades, as well as to major Taynton, the senior officer of artillery, of whose services I was deprived by a wound which he received on the day the army occupied a position before this town.

Although I have every reason to be satisfied with the zeal of the heads of departments, I feel it a particular duty incumbent upon me, to express, in the most pointed manner, the obligations

which I owe to Dr. Harris, the superintending surgeon, and to the medical staff in general, for their unremitting attention in the discharge of the important duty reposed in them.

I have received every assistance from lieutenant Gregory, my military secretary, and the whole of my personal staff.

To major Caldwell, of the Madras engineers, and who accompanied me from India, I am indebted for the most able and assiduous exertions. Since his arrival in these islands, he was indefatigable in procuring the necessary information, in respect to the defence of this colony, and through his means I was put in possession of an accurate plan of the town, some time previous to the disembarkation of the army, and I trust your lordship will permit me to recommend to your lordship's protection, this valuable and experienced officer.

It is not in my power to do justice to the merits of major-general Warde. I have, on every occasion, received from him the most cordial co-operation and assistance, and during the short operations of the army, he was constantly at the head of the column, directing the advance guard, and animating the soldiers by his personal example.

The most perfect harmony have subsisted between the navy and army, and I have received every assistance from vice-admiral Bertie, and the squadron under his command.

The arrangements connected with the disembarkation were conducted in the most able and judicious manner by captain Beavor, of his majesty's frigate Nisus, and during the subsequent operations of the army, I am indebted to him for his unremitting attention, and assiduous exertions, in landing the necessary stores and provisions.

To captain Briggs, of his majesty's ship Clorinde, and captain Lye of the Doris, who were employed under the orders of captain Beavor, my most grateful acknowledgments are due for the service they performed, as well as to the officers and seamen under their command.

A body of seamen were landed from the fleet, under the command of captain Montague; the exertions which were used to bring forward the guns through a most difficult country, were such as to attract the admiration of the whole army, and fully entitle captain Montague, lieutenant Lloyd, of the Africaine, and every officer and sailor, to the highest encomiums I can pass on their conduct.

The battalion of marines, under the command of captain Lirondel, supported the reputation of his distinguished corps.

This dispatch will be delivered to your lordship by my aid-de-camp, lieutenant M. Murdo, of the Bombay establishment, who will afford your lordship any further information you may require, respecting the operations of the army.

I have the honour to remain,
My lord,
Your lordship's most obedient,
Very humble servant,
(Signed) J. Abercromby,
Major-general.

Port-Louis, Dec. 7, 1810.

We, the undersigned, major-general Henry Warde, and commodore Josiah Rowley, nominated on the part of his Britannic majesty, by vice admiral Albemarle Bertie, commander-in-chief of his Britannic majesty's ships and vessels employed at the Cape of Good Hope, and the seas adjacent; and lieutenant-general honourable John Abercromby, commander of his Britannic majesty's forces, on the one part; and Martin Vandermassen, general of division, member of the legion of honor, and commandant of the troops of his imperial and royal majesty the emperor of France, at the Isle of France, and Mr. Victor Duperré Capitaine de Vaisseau of his imperial and royal majesty, nominated on the part of Charles de Caen, grand officer of the legion of honor, general of division, captain general of the French settlements to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope, on the other part; being severally and respectfully armed with full powers to settle a treaty for the capi-

ulation and surrender of the Isle of France and all its dependencies, to the arms of his Britannic majesty, do agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1.

Que les troupes tant de terre que de mer, officiers, sous officiers, et soldats, ne seront point prisonniers de guerre.

The troops of his imperial and royal majesty the emperor of France, forming the garrison of the island of France: the officers and non-commissioned officers, the officers of the imperial and royal marine, and the crews of the ships of war, shall not be considered as prisoners of war, neither the civil authorities.

ARTICLE 2.

Qu'ils emporteront tous leurs effets et baggages.

The troops of his imperial and royal majesty shall retain their arms and colours, without ammunition, and all their personal effects and baggage to the extent of that which upon honor shall be declared private property.

ARTICLE 3.

Qu'ils seront transportès, ainsi que leurs familles dans un des ports de l'empire Français.

The troops of his imperial and royal majesty, and the crews of the ships of the Imperial and Royal Marine, shall be sent with their families to a port in European France.

ARTICLE 4.

Que pour ce transport, Je conserverai les quartres frigates de S. M. l'empereur, La Manche, La Bellone, La Astree, et La Minerve, ainsi que les Corvettes, La Viector et l'Entreprenant avec leurs officiers, et equipages, armement, et munitions, et approvisionnement.

Altogether inadmissible: the crews of the ships of war of the Imperial and Royal Marine are provided for by the preceding article.

ARTICLE 5.

Qu'il sera joint à ces batimens, fix batimens de transport, que Je designerai pour etre employés a notre transport avec les approvisionements necessaries pour leurs equipage, et passages.

Proper vessels shall be forthwith equipped as cartels, at the expence of the British government, provisioned and stored to convey the French garrison and the crews of the ships of war to European France: the same vessels to be at liberty to proceed to any port of England, without delay.

ARTICLE 6.

Ces Conditions agrèès Je rendrai la colonie, et tous les dependances, les magazines, &c. &c On fera une inventaire de tous les objets qui le appartient, seront conservés a l'empereur, et dressés pour rendre le tout à la paix.

The colony and its dependencies shall be ceded unconditionally, no power being vested in the parties contracting, to determine its future destination. Inventories shall be taken by commissioners to be appointed on behalf of the contracting parties of all public magazines and stores which shall be given up to the forces of his Britannic majesty in their actual state, and without deterioration.

ARTICLE 7.

Que les propriètês des habitans telles qu'ils seront, seront respeetès.

All private property shall be respected.

ARTICLE 8.

Que les habitans conserveront leur religion, loix et coutumes.

The inhabitants shall preserve their religion, laws, and customs.

ARTICLE 9.

Qu'il leur sera permis, pendant l'espace de deux ans, de jouir de la faculté, de quitter la colonie, avec leurs proprietés, pour se rendre aux lieux qu'ils voudront.

The colonists shall have the option during two years to come, to quit the colony with their respective private property.

ARTICLE 10.

Que les blessés qu'il sera obligé de laisser dans les hospitaux y seront traitès de la mëme maniere, que les sujets de S. M. Britannique.

The wounded or sick that it shall be necessary to leave in the hospitals, shall be treated the same as the subjects of his Britannic majesty. French surgeons shall be permitted to remain with them, and they shall afterwards be sent to France at the expence of the British government.

ADDITIONAL ARTICLES.

Art. 1.—The public functionaries of the French government of the Isle of France shall be permitted to remain in the colony for a reasonable period, to regulate and discharge their public accounts with the colonists.

Art. 2.—The morning of the 3d December instant, at six o'clock, A. M. possession shall be given to the troops of his Britannic majesty, of the fort of Dumas and the lines of the town of Port Napoleon down to the Bastion Fanfaron.

Art. 3.—The morning of the 4th December instant, at six o'clock, the Isle of Tonnelier, Fort Blanc, and the whole of the batteries of the harbour of Port Napoleon, and all the shipping, both ships of war and privateers, and merchant or other shipping of every description whatsoever, shall be given up to the naval and military forces of his Britannic majesty; and all shipping lying in any other creek, port, or harbour of the island, shall equally be considered as the property of his Britannic majesty.

Art. 4.—The troops of his imperial and royal majesty, and the crews of the ships of war and privateers shall retire to the barracks of the town, where they shall continue until their final embarkation.

Art. 5.—That the subsistence of the French garrison, both officers and men, as well as the officers and crews of the ships of war, so long as they shall remain here, shall be assured and provided for by the British government; the expences arising therefrom shall be considered as an advance for which the French government is pledged.

Art. 6.—That in the surrender of the port, as stipulated by the third additional article, all English prisoners of war of whatever description now in the island of France, shall be liberated.

Art. 7.—That if any difference shall arise in the interpretation of any part of the foregoing, it shall be interpreted in favour of the French government.

This done and agreed at the British head-quarters at Pamplemousses, at one o'clock A. M. the 3d day of December, 1810.

(Signed) Vandermassen, general of division.
H. Warde, major-general.
Josias Rowley, commodore.
W. du Perre captain de vaisseau.

Approuvê et ratifiè la presente,
(Signed) Le capitaine general,
De Caen.

(True Copy)
De Cortlogon, Sec. to the commission,
(Signed) Gregory, military secretary to the commander of the forces.

Return of the killed, wounded, and missing, at the attack at the Isle of France, on the 30th November, 1st and 2d of December, 1810.

KILLED.—1 lieut.-col. 1 major, 3 serjeants and havildars, 1 drummer, 22 rank and file.

WOUNDED.—1 lieut.-col. 1 major, 3 lieutenants, 5 serjeants and havildars, 1 drummer, 83 rank and file.

MISSING.—1 Native officer, 2 drummers, 42 rank and file.

(Signed) W. NICHOLSON, Dep. adj. gen.

N. B.—One seamen killed and five wounded, not included above.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

KILLED.—lieut.-col. Campbell, 33d regt. and major O'Keefe, 12th regiment.

WOUNDED.—Lieut.-col. Keating, 56th regiment.—Major Taynton, Madras artillery, lieuts. Ashe and Keappock, 12th regt. and Jones, 48th regt. (slightly.)

True copy. N. B. EDMONSTONE, Chief sec. to govt.

Fort William, February 9th.

His majesty having been pleased to appoint lieutenant-general Forbes Champagne to the staff in India, in his advanced rank of lieutenant-general, and major-general John Sullivan Wood, to the staff of Bengal; lieutenant-general Champagne and major-general Wood are admitted to the staff of this presidency.

Major-general Hugh Stafford and major-general James Morris, are appointed to the staff of the Bengal army, from the 1st of March next, in the room of major-general Macdonald, and major-general Palmer.

On this occasion, the right honorable the governor-general in council is pleased to express in public orders his entire approbation of the services and conduct of the respectable and meritorious officers who will retire from the staff, under the operation of the foregoing orders, and in conformity to the established rules of the service.

The services of major-general Macdonald have been repeatedly acknowledged, and were noticed with approbation by the late commander-in-chief lord Lake during the war with the Mahratta chieftains, and especiailly in the glorious and decisive battle of Laswaree. Since the appointment of major-general Macdonald to the staff, more than one occasion has arisen within his command, requiring the exertion of firmness, judgment, temper and decision, and his lordship in council is happy to acknowledge the benefit which the public service has derived from the union of those qualities in major-general Macdonald.

Major-general Palmer was appointed to the staff of the army, after a long, able, and honorable course of service, in high and confidential situations, under successive governments, during which, his public merits were invariably felt and acknowledged, and his judgment, talents and experience were exerted in securing and promoting the interests of the honorable company, in many important and trying conjunctures. The eminent services of major-general Palmer are well known to the public, and occupy a distinguished place on the records of this government, and his lordship in council experiences cordial satisfaction in declaring, that major-general Palmer has manifested since his appointment to the staff of this army, the same spirit of zeal, honor, and attachment to the public interests, which has always marked his public conduct.

FORT WILLIAM, FEB. 9, 1811.

General orders by the right honourable the governor-general in council.

The right honourable the governor-general in council has recently had the satisfaction to notify in general orders, the gallant and successful attack upon the partizans of Gopaul Sing, by a detachment of the force employed in the province of Bundlecund, against that marauder; and his lordship in council now has great pleasure in publishing for general information, the following report, dated the 21st December, (the receipt of which has been retarded by accidental circumstances) of a further advantage obtained by a part of the same force under the immediate command of lieutenant-colonel Brown, of the 1st regiment of native cavalry, over a body of horse commanded by Gopaul Sing himself.

The professional skill and gallantry of lieutenant-colonel Brown, and the officers and men under his command,

entitle them to the distinguished approbation of the governor-general in council, but his lordship in council contemplates, with peculiar admiration, the extraordinary and indefatigable exertions of the detachment, in the pursuit of the enemy through a difficult country, in the course of which the detachment is stated, in authentic accounts which have reached the governor-general in council, to have marched the distance of fifty miles, without a halt for the purpose of rest or refreshment.

The satisfaction which the governor-general in council has experienced on this occasion, is augmented that this successful enterprize has been accomplished without the occurrence of a single casualty among the gallant troops composing lieutenant-colonel Brown's detachment; his lordship in council avails himself of this opportunity to express the just sense which government entertains of the unremitted zeal, activity, and judgment, which have distinguished the exertions of the several officers engaged in framing and conducting the operations of the several detachments employed in the pursuit of Gopaul Sing, and his adherents. The military arrangements for the execution of the service formed by lieutenant-colonel Martindell, the commanding officer in Bundlecund, have been highly creditable to the professional ability and public zeal of that officer. The more immediate superintendence of the movements of the several detachments devolving upon lieutenant-colonel Brown as the senior officer in the field, and the arduous duty of conducting the corps under that officer's personal command, which has been especially engaged in the continual and active labors of pursuit, have been exercised in a manner to merit the utmost approbation and applause. The vigilance and energy displayed by Major Kelly, captain Watson, and the other officers, commanding divisions, and parties, as well as the persevering exertions, patience and discipline of all the officers and men employed in the late trying and fatiguing service, have attracted the particular notice, and demand the highest commendation, of the governor-general in council.

His lordship in council further deems it an act of justice, on this occasion, to express his high estimation of the essential assistance which Mr. Richardson, the governor-general's agent in Bundlecund, has rendered, by the judicious counsel which his local knowledge enabled him to afford, regarding the system of measures to be pursued by the salutary exertion of his influence and authority over the chiefs of Bundlecund and its vicinity, and by the assiduous application of his time and talents to the execution of the various and complicated duties of his station, as connected with the arrangements and operations of the campaign.

By order of the right honourable the governor-general in council.

N. B. Edmonstone,
Chief Sec. to govt.

COPY.

To lieutenant-colonel Martindell, commanding in Bundlecund.

Sir, Keitah.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you, that this morning I had the satisfaction of coming up with Gopaul Sing, near the village of Killary, after a march of about fifty miles, he having marched about two hours before my arrival; I perceived his track, and determined to pursue him with the cavalry, and in a short time came up with his horsemen in a thick jungle. A number fell on the first onset, and a great part of the remainder taking refuge on a hill covered with thick jungle, were attacked by the infantry, who arrived shortly afterwards. The total number of killed and wounded on the part of the enemy, I estimate at fifty. No infantry were seen, nor is there any casualty on our part.

Gopaul Sing, as I am informed, being refused an asylum in the country of the rajah of Rewah, returned from Baroundah on the 20th, and encamped at the Hurdee Ghaut, on the bank of the Soone river, where I crossed, and proceeding on his track, had the good fortune to succeed, as I have reported; there are some Sirdars amongst the

slain, but Gopaul Sing, I fear, has escaped, owing solely to the nature of the ground, which was covered with thick jungle, and prevented his being particularized.

In this affair, the utmost praise is due to the exertions, both of the cavalry and infantry, and it cannot be put in a stronger point of view, than by a reference to the length of the march previous to the attack, and the extent of the pursuit, which may be fairly reckoned at 100 miles; and I trust they will meet with deserved consideration.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) T. Brown lieut.-col.

Camp Pulluneah, Dec. 21, 1810.

P. S. I shall have the pleasure to write to you again to-morrow.

(A true copy.)

(Signed) T. Brown, lieut.-col.

(A true copy.)

(Signed) J. R. *A. G. G.*

(A true copy.)

N. B. Edmonstone,

Chief Sec. to the govt.

Fort-William, Feb. 16, 1811.

General Orders by the right honourable the governor-general in council.

The right honourable the governor-general in council having received the official report of the reduction of the whole of the Molucca islands by the arms of his majesty and the honourable company, is pleased to direct the publication of the following documents, describing the details of the late brilliant and successful enterprizes against the Dutch settlements of Banda and Ternate, which terminated in the capture of the former on the 8th, and of the latter on the 28th of August.

His lordship in council considers the rapid conquest of a place, so strongly fortified by nature and by art as the island of Banda, in the face of a superior force, without the loss of a man, as forming a singular event in the annals of British enterprize, and the governor-general in council has great pleasure in recording a public testimony of the approbation and applause while he contemplates the distinguished zeal and gallantry of the commanding officer of the troops, captain Nixon, and the courage, discipline and firmness of the general body of the officers and troops under his direction, in carrying into effect with such signal and rapid success, the plan of operations for the reduction of that settlement, concerted by captain Cole, of his majesty's ship Caroline.

The governor-general in council considers the expression of his high commendation, to be equally due to the gallantry and exertions of captain D. Forbes, and of the officers and men under his command, so conspicuously displayed in the attack of the fortified places on the Island of Ternate, under the general superintendance and authority of captain Tucker, of his majesty's ship Dover, the success of which was followed by the surrender of that important possession to the British arms.

Although the restrictions of official form exclude from the cognizance of this government the merits of the officers and men of his majesty's naval service employed on these occasions, yet the governor-general in council cannot refrain from acknowledging the degree in which the acquisition of the settlements of Banda and Ternate is to be attributed to the skill and exertions of captains Cole and Tucker, and to the activity and zeal of the officers and men under their command.

By order of the right honorable the governor-general in council.

N. B. Edmonstone,

Chief Sec. to the Govt.

Extract from a letter from captain Nixon, to the chief secretary at Fort St. George, dated September,---1810.

The senior officer commanding the squadron, having resolved to make an attempt upon Banda, in consequence applied to the government of Penang for the assistance of as many artillery men as could be spared, and also, for some scaling ladders; a sufficient number of the latter were received on board at Penang, and his majesty's brig Barracoutta, was dispatched to Malacca with orders for lieutenant Yeates, and a detail of twenty non-commissioned rank and file of the artillery, and to embark immediately. The Caroline, with the Piedmontaise

and Mandarin in company, sailed on the 10th, and arrived off Malacca on the 12th of June, and being joined by the Barracoutta, with lieutenant Yeates and his detail on board, the whole proceeded on the voyage eastward, and only stopping a few days at Sooloo, for the purpose of completing the ships with water and fresh provisions, arrived on the evening of the 8th of August in Banda Roads, not a single casualty having happened during our voyage from Penang, a period of nearly two months.

A few days before we arrived at Banda, captain Cole had published in orders, a plan of attack, a copy of which I have the honor to enclose: he now determined to carry it into immediate execution, and for that purpose the seamen, marines, and soldiers, were ordered to land; about eleven o'clock, commenced getting into the boats from the several ships; however, from the darkness of the night, and the weather being then very unfavorable for boat service, it was found impossible to disembark the whole force at once, and consequently, though the detachment (with the exception of a very few sick,) were ready and anxious to share in the enterprize, I was under the disagreeable necessity of landing with only about fifty men.

The boats after having collected under the cluff point of great Banda, (about two o'clock in the morning of the 9th,) proceeded to the point of debarkation on Banda Neiro, and at four o'clock landed (in a heavy squall of rain and wind, to which I attribute our ultimate and happy success,) within an hundred yards of a battery of *ten guns*, which was immediately taken by a party of seamen in advance, under the command of captain Kennah, of the Barracoutta; a serjeant with a small party of seamen, and a few of the soldiers being left in charge, the remainder proceeded to the attack of Fort Belgica, in the following order: the seamen followed by the scaling ladders in front, the marines and the detachment under my command in the rear, for the purpose of covering them at the time of attack; from the near approach of day-light, there was not a moment to be lost, and accordingly, under the direction of a native guide, the whole advanced with great rapidity along the rear of the town, and in a short time arrived under the outwalls of the fort, which was carried by escalade, about half past five, A. M. without the loss of a single man. The enemy, upon the commencement of the attack, made a considerable resistance, but the covering party kept up such a constant and well-directed fire, that they were soon drove from the works.

(A true extract,)

N. B. EDMONSTONE,

Chief sec. to the govt.

Copy.

To captain M. H. Court, commanding Amboyna, &c. &c.

SIR,—I have much satisfaction in reporting to you the capture of the island of Ternate, which surrendered on the morning of the 31st ultimo.

His majesty's ship Dover, with the detachment you did me the honor to place under my command, arrived in sight of the island on the 25th, but from baffling winds and calms, a landing could not be effected until the morning of the 28th.

Being in hopes that a single ship would not have excited any great alarm, more especially as captain Tucker had much disguised her, it was determined that a landing should be attempted at night near to Fort Kayo Meirah (which stands on a point, at the entrance of the bay) with a view of carrying it by surprise; for this purpose, every preparation and arrangement had been previously made for escalading the walls.

On the afternoon of the 27th, his majesty's ship Dover stood in, all sail set, with a fine breeze; about midnight the wind died away, and shortly after the land wind set in, upon which the detachment (as per margin*) was immediately ordered in the boats.

* Seamen, 32; marines, 36; Madras European regiment, 64; Artillery, 10; a corps, natives, 32; including officers, 174.

"My letter to captain Tucker of the 1st instant, a copy of which I have the honor to forward, gives a detail of its operation.

I have fully expressed my sentiments regarding the conduct of the officers and men employed, and assure you that every exertion to combat fatigue and difficulties, was cheerfully made, and every one seemed only desirous of pushing forward, in order to attain the ultimate object.

The service is much indebted to captain Tucker, for his attention to the detachment on shore; every possible assistance was rendered by him. The gallant manner in which he laid his majesty's ship close alongside the different batteries, soon had the desired effect, and the enemy was soon compelled to surrender, having suffered a heavy loss in killed and wounded, particularly from the fire of the Dover.

Lieutenant Cursham, who is in charge of this dispatch, will deliver to you the colours of Fort Kayo Meirah, and those of the regiment in garrison here, to be forwarded on to India: he is fully competent to give any additional information you may receive, not only regarding the capture of the island, but also the arrangements entered into.

I have the honor to enclose you a return of the killed and wounded, as also the ordnance, and articles of capitulation, and remain, &c.

(Signed) DAVID FORBES,
Captain commanding.

(A true copy.)
(Signed) M. W. COURT.
Captain commanding.

Ternate, Fort Orange, 9th Sept. 1810.
Return of the killed and wounded.

KILLED.—Royal marines; 1 private, detachment M. E. regiment, 1 serjeant.

WOUNDED.—Royal marines, 1 private severely.

Seaman, 1 Severely.

Detachment of artillery, 1 Matross, severely, since dead.

Ditto, M. E. regiment lieutenant C. Forbes, a severe contusion from a fall in storming.

3 Privates, severely.

6 slightly.

Amboyna corps, 1 serjeant and 1 private slightly.

Guides, 1 severely.

Total killed, 1 serjeant and 2 privates.

Ditto, Wounded, 1 lieutenant, 1 serjeant, 12 Privates, and 1 guide.

Return of mounted ordnance on the fortification of Castle Orange, Fort Kayo Meirah, Talookeo, and the adjacent batteries at Ternate.

BRASS.—2 6-pounders, 3 4-pounders, 1 1-pounder, 4 1-pounders.

IRON.—8 18-pounders, 20 12-pounders, 14 8-pounders, 14 6-pounders, 14 4-pounders, 3 2-pounders, 3 1-pounders.

BRASS.—1 7-inch Mortar, 1 4 ditto, 4 4-inch Cohorns.

Total 91.

Dismounted Ordnance.

BRASS.—2 4-pounders, 4 1-pounders, 1 ½ pounder.

IRON.—2 6-pounders, 12 4-pounders. 2 2-pounders, 2 1-pounder.

BRASS.—1 4½ inch Mortar, 2 4 ditto, 1 5½ ditto.

Total 29.

(Signed) DAVID FORBES,
Captain commanding.

To Edward Tucker, Esq. commanding his Majesty's ship Dover.

SIR,

I have the honour to detail to you, the operations of the detachment under my command, from the time of its leaving his Majesty's ship Dover, until hostilities ceased against the island of Ternate.

After the boats left the ship, on the night of the 27th instant, every possible exertion was made by lieutenant Jeffries in charge, to accomplish a landing before day-break, with a view of taking fort Kayo Meirah, by surprize; finding, however, that so desirable an object could not be effected, I directed him to proceed to Sasa, (which is situated behind a point of land) where we landed without molestation about seven A.M. Lieut. Charles Forbes then moved forward with a party to occupy the heights, where he remained until the gun and ammunition could be brought up; this became a fatiguing service, from the steepness of the hills and deep ravines.

About noon, after incredible labour, we gained a commanding position near the sea, where we rested about two hours. Having left a party here to keep up the communication with the ship, we proceeded on to occupy a

height said to command fort Kayo Meirah, and which was pointed out as the spot taken up by the English last war; but, to our great mortification, on our gaining it, we found that the trees had grown so much, as to preclude entirely our seeing the fort; in the mean time we perceived the flag of truce hoisted on board his Majesty's ship Dover.

Being determined, in the event of the enemy's not agreeing to the summons, to gain immediate possession of Fort Kayo Meirah, I ordered 100 men, with double scaling ladders, to be in readiness to storm; the moment I received your letter, inclosing the governor's refusal, I proceeded on, about seven o'clock, P. M. with this party, keeping the island road; after advancing some little way, we found it impossible to proceed further, owing to the immense trees cut down by the enemy, and thrown across the road. I then turned to the right, after great labour reached the beach, and about ten o'clock, arrived within about 800 yards of the fort undiscovered. We had not advanced fifty yards farther, before the enemy's out-sentry fired his musket. Immediately after a detachment of the enemy, with a brigade of guns, fired a volley; we now pushed forward, keeping a fire of musketry on the detachment outside, which drove them off.

The fort now opened a very heavy fire of grape and musketry, notwithstanding which we crossed the ditch, and placed the ladder on the flank of the bastion, on the right of the bridge, under a brisk fire from the opposite bastion. The walls were escaladed and the fort taken instantly, and an officer and sixty-eight prisoners secured.

As soon as any light appeared, the battery of Cottah Parah opened a fire, the distance, however, was too far to do any damage.

Understanding that it was opened to the rear, I ordered lieutenant Cursham with a party to advance, and endeavour to gain possession; he was, however, obliged to return, the enemy having turned six heavy guns, and commenced a fire of grape. In consequence of your having communicated to me your intention of laying his Majesty's ship Dover alongside Kota Bara, the strand batteries, fort Orange, and the town, I directed lieutenant Cursham again to advance with a six pounder, and take advantage of your fire. The enemy, in the course of the day, threw up a breast work across the road, defended by two field pieces. Lieutenant Cursham fired a few rounds from the six pounder, advanced, and carried it, then proceeded on, and got possession of Kota Bara, (the enemy only fired one round) and turned the guns towards the strand battery and the town, keeping up a fire until the flag of truce was hoisted.

I cannot express to you how much the service on this occasion was benefitted from the exertions of the officers, viz. lieutenant Jefferies of the royal navy, lieutenant Higginson of the royal marines, and lieutenants C. Forbes and Cursham, of the Madras European regiment; their bravery was conspicuous on every occasion, and the success in carrying the fort, is entirely to be attributed to their great presence of mind in conducting men in a dark night, preventing confusion incidental on such an occasion, and the gallant manner in which they mounted the walls.

To the marines, seamen, detachment of coast artillery, Madras European regiment, and Amboyna corps, every praise that can be given to men is due. The fatigue endured by the seamen in dragging the gun, and bringing up the ammunition, was great, and the six seamen who carried the ladder, are deserving of notice.

I have the honour to enclose you a return of the killed and wounded; I attribute the small loss on this occasion to the darkness of the night, and the quickness of the advance of the party.

I have, &c.

(Signed) David Forbes, capt.comdg.

(A true copy.)

N B Edmonstone,

Chief sec. to the govt.

Ternate, Fort Orange, Sept. 1, 1810.

GAZETTE OF THE ISLE OF FRANCE.

Proclamation.

In the name of his majesty, George

III. king of the united kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland.

The proclamation in the name of his Britannic majesty of the 5th December, 1810, having announced, that by a former proclamation the inhabitants of the Isle of France would be forthwith informed of the way in which the administration of this island would be established; it is, in consequence, decreed as at the Isle of Bourbon, as follows:

ART. 1.—All the ecclesiastical establishments, and those who fill religious offices, shall be preserved under the British government, under the same laws and regulations which existed in the island before its surrender.

ART. 2.—All establishments, as well judicial as those of the police, shall be alike preserved and continued, durante bene placito, under the British government, on the same bases and rules as before the surrender, except with respect to the following regulations: 1st. All sentences shall be in the name of his majesty, George III. king of the United kingdoms of Great Britain and Ireland, instead of being entitled as heretofore. 2d. All the decrees of the court of appeal established in the island, against which persons might formerly appeal before the superior courts of the government in France, shall be, until further orders, presented, (provided the parties who consider themselves aggrieved, shall be so disposed,) to the governor of these islands, who will decide, after he shall have submitted them to the judge and magistrate of the colony, for his advice and opinion; nevertheless, in all cases where the parties may wish to appeal to his Britannic majesty in council, that right is permitted, as it formerly existed with respect to the court of appeal in France. In no case shall any cause be referred to his Britannic majesty, where the judgment shall not exceed the sum of four million pieces of eight.

ART. 3.—John Shaw, Esq. bachelor of laws, licentiate and advocate, has been appointed and commissioned judge and magistrate, for this island and its dependencies.

ART. 4.—All complaints, except for military offences, which can be brought against subjects of his Britannic majesty, not already submitted to the laws of the colony, shall, till further order, be submitted by the complainants without delay, to the judge and magistrate who will hear and examine the complaint, and make his report to the governor who will determine on its merits.

ART. 5.—All the inhabitants of this island may, and will enjoy the same privileges in respect to commerce, as are and shall be legally enjoyed by his Britannic majesty's other subjects; all persons desiring it shall be informed of the rules, regulations, and restrictions, which exist, relative to commerce, as well as those which shall be, to this end, addressed to the tribunals, and deposited at the custom-houses, which are, or shall be, established in the colony.

ART. 6.---All the public functionaries formerly employed to make reports, will continue to do so, from time to time, to the heads of their departments, who, when they submit them to the governor, will take care to be well acquainted with the situation of the colony, as was the custom under the French government.

ART. 7.---Whenever in other parts of the administration, not hitherto mentioned, government shall please to make the necessary appointments, it will be invariably determined in its choice of persons whose morals, talents, and fidelity shall be particularly known.

ART. 8.---The governor will receive, at all times, either in writing, or in person, such just complaints as the inhabitants may have to make, in order to redress them.

Lastly, from the publication of these presents, all persons shall be bound to obey them.

Port-Louis, Isle of France,
28th Dec. 1810.

The governor of the Isles of France, Bourbon, and their dependencies.

R. T. FARQUHAR.

By order; the chief sec to govt.

A. BARRY.

PROCLAMATION,

In the name of his majesty, &c.

The inhabitants in the several quar-

ters of the island will appear before the English commanding officer at those places, there to take and sign the oath of submission to his majesty, George III. king of Great Britain and Ireland.

A register will be opened in one of the offices of government for the inhabitants of Port Louis, who will repair there to sign it between the hours of 11 in the forenoon and 2 in the afternoon.

Those who, in twenty days, shall not have taken the oath, shall be considered unwilling to do so, and will therefore hold themselves in readiness to depart for France, at such time as they shall be ordered. Long live the king.

R. T. FARQUHAR, Governor, &c.
By order, A. BARRY, Chief Sec.

NOTICE.

From the representations made to us by the prize agents, and conformably to the third additional article of the capitulation, it is ordered that the owners of all vessels taken and seized in the roads, and which are become the property of his Britannic Majesty's forces, do restore on board ship all the rigging appurtenances, sails, cables, anchors, and all articles, generally, of this kind which form an *integral* and *essential* part of the said ships, and which ought not to have been taken away.

R. T. FARQUHAR,
Governor, &c. &c.

Port Louis, Dec. 27, 1810.

MADRAS *Occurrences for* JANUARY, 1810.

JAN. 1.—The right honourable governor-general gave a grand ball and supper to the settlement at the banqueting room of the government-house, the floor of which exhibited the arms of the honourable company, surrounded by a broad border, executed with the greatest taste, and in the most correct style of drawing.

The company began to assemble about ten o'clock, the arrival of lord Minto and lady Barlow was announced by the band striking up God save the king. His highness the nabob entered shortly after, when the dancing commenced.

The supper tables were laid in the gallery of the banqueting room, and were covered with every luxury.

The room was extremely crowded on the occasion, and the company consisted of nearly the whole settlement.

JAN. 2.—The Bellona of twenty-eight guns, captain Dupray, fell in with his Majesty's sloop of war Victor, Captain Stopford, on the second of November last, near the sand heads, and after an unequal contest of thirty minutes, the Victor was obliged to yield to the superior force of the enemy.

On the 19th of November, the Bellona captured the Resolution, Captain Purefoy, bound from this port to Calcutta.

On the 22d, at nine o'clock in the evening, the enemy fell in with the Portuguese frigate Minerva, and an action commenced which lasted above an hour, when the Bellona drew off. On the following morning, being in Latitude 19 North, the action recommenced, and continued for 55 minutes, when the Minerva struck her colours.

The enemy captured also the Arab ship Fazeromany from Bengal, and the admiral Drury from Escapilla to Calcutta.

Captain Dupray, on the 8th of Dec. in latitude 2 North, longitude 90 East, put 380 prisoners on board the latter ship, ordering them to proceed to the nearest port, and the whole reached point de Galle on the 15th ultimo.

General Orders.

JAN. 13.—It having been brought to the notice of the officer command-

ing the army, that a doubt exists "whether an inferior officer is obliged to recognize his superior in any other situation than on parade or in the actual exercise of military duties," the officer commanding the army, deems it essential to the discipline of the army, and the necessary support of military subordination, to explain in public orders, that an officer is at all times, and in all situations, responsible for the conduct of the officers placed under his authority, controul or command, and that it is their indispensable duty to recognize his authority by an implicit obedience to orders, and rigid observance of the respect every inferior owes to the person of his superior in all situations in which they may have it in their power to evince it.

The first principles of military discipline and subordination arise out of this practice, and officers entrusted with command are directed to call forth the most exemplary observance of them from all ranks of officers, whose individual authority and respect amongst the soldiery can only be maintained by the example given in this important discharge of their own duty.

MADRAS

Occurrences for February.

Feb. 17.—The Venus from Penang, brings accounts of a most gallant and successful action fought by lieutenant Kempthorne of his majesty's sloop Diana, of 12 12-pounders.

On the 11th of September the Diana perceiving a Dutch national brig of sixteen guns and 47 men, in the bay of Mazardo, lying under the protection of a fort, decoyed her out, attacked and brought her to close action—and, notwithstanding the superiority of force, and the assistance of five gun-boats, which had been detached for the purpose, he succeeded in capturing her in the most gallant and superior style.

The Diana had only two men wounded—the loss of the Zaphire was the first lieutenant and four seamen killed, and the commander and one seaman wounded.

Feb. 26th. — Saturday (being the last Saturday in February) the gentlemen of this presidency educated at Westminster school held their anniversary meeting at the pantheon.—The stewards on the occasion, Mr. F. Gahagan and Mr. C. Higginson, had provided a most elegant dinner, and fourteen brother Westminsters sat down to the celebration of this festival.—After the removal of the cloth the golden poculum, presented to them by Warren Hastings, esq. when governor-general, was filled to the brim, and the standing toast, "Floreat," given by the senior steward with three times three; after which, "the immortal memory of their royal foundress, Queen Elizabeth;" "the universities of the united kingdom." "Brother Westminsters all over the world." "Public schools;" and several other appropriate toasts followed. The healths of the archbishop of York and bishop of London, the duke of Bedford, the duke of Portland, the duke of Richmond, the speaker of the House of Commons, the chief baron, and of many other illustrious living characters educated at this great school, were also drank. The party did not separate until after midnight.

Major-general Warde and Mr. H. Gahagan are appointed stewards for the next anniversary.

MADRAS

Occurrences for March.

March 1st. — The armies under colonel Close and lieutenant-colonel Martindell, were, by the latest accounts, within a few miles of each other, and would in all probability form a junction about the 16th or 18th curt.

Colonel Close's army arrived at Seronge, and took possession of that city, without opposition, on the 11th current. Colonel Close's army is composed of the following corps:

H. M. 22d regiment of light dragoons,
1st regiment Madras cavalry,
2d ditto ditto,
4th ditto ditto,
7th ditto ditto,
8th ditto ditto,
H. M. 34th regt. of foot,
20th regt. Madras Native infantry.
2d Battalion of the 7th regiment ditto.

1st battalion of the 9th regiment ditto.
1st battalion of the 12th regiment ditto.
1st battalion of the 16th regiment ditto.
2d battalion of the 17th regiment ditto.
And about 3000 of the Mysorean, and 4000 of the Nizam's horse.

The 1st battalion of the 20th regiment was left on the banks of the Nurbuddah.

During the latter part of its march, the army had found the supplies of provisions much less abundant, than in the earlier part of their route. Gram particularly was very scarce, and had risen to six or seven rupees per maund. Brandy was the only liquor procurable in camp, and that sold at 25 pagodas per dozen. The only enemy that they had met or seen in their long route, was a marauding corps of Pindaries, who, on one occasion, succeeded in an enterprize against a few bullocks, which they carried off.

Head quarters, Choultry Plain, 8th March, 1810.

General Orders by Major-gen. Gowdie.

The following parts of the confirmed proceedings of a general court-martial assembled at Bangalore, by order of major-general Gowdie, commanding the army in chief, on the 1st day of November, 1809, and of which major-general Warde is president, is published to the army.

CHARGE. --- Lieutenant-colonel John Bell, of the Madras artillery, and late commanding the fort and garrison of Seringapatam, charged by the officer comanding the army, with having in subversion of all good order and military discipline, and in violation of the rules and articles of war for the better government of the company's forces, joined in, and headed a most dangerous and alarming mutiny and sedition, which took place in the said garrison, on and betwixt the 30th day of July last, and 23d of August following; during which period, the garrison fired on the troops of his majesty and those of the company and their ally the rajah of Mysoor, and seized on the public treasury, and the lieutenant-colonel, John Bell, declared his resolution not to deliver up the fort and garrison to the proper authorities.

By order of major-general Gowdie, commanding the army.

(Signed) T. H. S. Conway,
Adjt.-gen. of the army.

Fort St. George, Oct. 9th, 1809.

Sentence, as passed on the 9th December, 1809.

The court are of opinion, that the prisoner, lieutenant-colonel John Bell, is guilty of the charge preferred against him, which being in violation of the articles of war, and subversive of good order and military discipline, they do sentence the said lieutenant-colonel John Bell to be cashiered, and do further declare him unworthy of ever serving the honourable company in any military capacity whatsoever.

(Signed) H. Warde, major-general and president.
W. Ormsby, deputy judge-advocate.

Revised sentence, as passed on the 27th day of February, 1809.

The court having re-considered the evidence brought before them, adhere to their former opinion.

(Signed) H. Warde, major-general and president.
W. Ormsby, deputy judge-advocate.

I perfectly agree with the court, that the prisoner, lieutenant-colonel John Bell of the corps of artillery, is guilty of the crimes charged against him; and I do therefore confirm the sentence.

(Signed) F. Gowdie, major-gen.
commanding the army in chief.

Although the officer commanding the army has confirmed the sentence of the general court-martial, which has adjudged lieutenant-colonel John Bell to be cashiered, and declared him unworthy of ever serving the honourable company in any military capacity whatsoever, he feels it a sacred duty he owes to his king, his country, and the service, to which he has now zealously devoted forty-three years of his life, to express his pointed disapprobation of the punishment awarded the prisoner; which, in his opinion, bears no proportion to the atrocity of the crimes so clearly proved in evidence on the face of the proceedings.

The officer commanding Mysore

will be pleased to order Mr. John Bell to proceed to the presidency immediately, for the purpose of placing himself under the charge of the town-major.

Fort St. George, March 9th, 1810.

The right honourable the governor-general in council, deeming it to be expedient, that the native troops of this establishment, now assembling for foreign service, should be distinctly apprised of the probable period of their return, and of the provision that will be made for the support of their families, in the event of casualties, is accordingly pleased to announce, for general information, that their absence from the coast will not exceed the term of three years, and that the families of all the commissioned, non-commissioned, rank and file, as well as of public followers, who may either die or fall in battle during the absence of the corps from this presidency, will be pensioned on the half-pay of the rank of their deceased relations.

His lordship in council authorizes the European and native commissioned, non-commissioned, rank and file, and public followers, to grant family certificates, and is pleased to direct that the amount of the certificates shall be invariably discharged between the 1st and 6th of each month, without waiting any further communication: also that the family of each person above-mentioned, or the person holding the certificate, shall receive the amount of their family certificates, without reference to casualties, until the return of the corps to the coast, when pensions will be granted to the nearest heirs of those natives of all ranks, who may have died, or been killed in battle.

His lordship in council directs that an advance of two months pay be issued to all ranks, European and native, exclusive of their arrears, and pay for the current month, to enable them to provide necessaries for the voyage, and to defray the expence their families will incur in proceeding to the several stations where they may wish to reside.

Full batta and rations agreeably to a table which will be formed, will be allowed to the native troops and public followers during the service, and with the view of adding to their comfort while engaged on the expedition. His lordship in council has authorized the issue of broad cloth watch cloaks and pantaloons to all the native troops employed on this occasion.

General Orders:

Head-quarters of the army, Choultry Plain, 20th March, 1810.

G. O. By major-general Gowdie.

Further extracts from the proceedings of a general court-martial assembled at Bangalore on the 1st day of November, 1809, and of which major-general Warde is president, are published to the army.

Lieutenant-colonel John Doveton, of the 8th regiment native cavalry, and late commanding the detachment of troops serving at the frontier station of Jaulna, ordered in arrest by the officer commanding the army, on the following charges:

CHARGE 1.---For conduct subversive of all good order and military discipline, and in breach of the rules and articles of war, for the better government of the company's forces, by having, in violation of his duty, and the great trust reposed in him, as commanding a most important and critically-situated frontier station, shamefully abandoned the post committed to his charge, by moving his detachment from the station of Jaulna on the 14th of August last, and with a mutinous and seditious design against the existing government of Fort St George.

2d.---For having, previously to his march, used endeavours to stir up and excite the troops under his command, to join in a mutiny and sedition against the existing government of Fort St. George.

3d.---For having affixed his name to a mutinous and seditious paper, styled The Declaration, expressive of the intentions with which the force had commenced their march.

By order of major-general Gowdie, commanding the army.

(Signed) T. H. S. CONWAY,
Adjutant-general.

Fort St. George, 9th Oct.

Sentence, as passed on the 5th day of February, 1810.

The court are of opinion that the prisoner, lieutenant colonel John Doveton is not guilty of the charges preferred against him, and do, in the most full and most honourable manner, acquit him of all and every part thereof.

(Signed) HENRY WARDE,
Major-General and President.
(Signed) WILLIAM ORMSBY,
Deputy Judge Advocate.

Revised sentence, as passed the 13*th day of February,* 1810.

The court, in obedience to the orders of the officer commanding the army, having reconsidered the whole of the evidence brought before them, do not find any reasons to alter their former opinion.

(Signed) HENRY WARDE,
Major-General and President.
(Signed) WILLIAM ORMSBY,
Deputy Judge Advocate.

The officer commanding the army has deeply to lament that he cannot subscribe his approbation to the above sentence. The prisoner has rested his defence on the pretext of having joined in the mutiny for the purpose of preventing the excesses of his men. But the articles of war having expressly excluded such plea, it is impossible to warrant an acquittal in opposition to the very letter of the law itself.

A second ground of the prisoner's defence appears to be a private and confidential letter from captain Sydenham, the resident at Hyderabad, recommending to lieutenant-colonel Doveton to adopt the above conduct. Advice contrary to law can never constitute an authority for criminal acts, let it come from what quarter it will. But the letter in question was altogether unofficial, being marked confidential, and not only not reported to government, but seemingly carefully concealed by both parties from its knowledge, until the moment it was produced in court by lieutenant-colonel Doveton, as a document of his defence.

A court martial may indeed discharge a prisoner from the legal penalty; but how far the party shall be again employed is a separate question. An officer who could conceive himself justified in putting himself at the head of a mutiny on the mere suggestions of another, or on any pretext whatever, can never, in the opinion of major-general Gowdie, be thought fit to be again entrusted with any important command. He feels himself, therefore, imperiously called on to recommend to government, that lieutenant colonel Doveton may be removed from the exercise of all military functions, until the pleasure of the court of directors shall be taken on his case, allowing him, in the mean time, to draw his proper allowances.

Lieutenant-colonel John Doveton released from arrest.

The above order to be read at the head of every regiment and battalion on the establishment.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head quarters of the Army: Choultry Plain, 21*st March,* 1810.

The right honourable the governor-general in council having addressed the subjoined orders to major-general Gowdie, commanding the army, to be published to the army, they are accordingly published in military orders.

Fort St.George, 21*st March,* 1810.

G. O. By government.

The officer commanding the army having laid before the governor-general in council the proceedings of a general court martial on the trial of lieutenant-colonel Doveton, and having recommended that lieutenant-colonel Doveton shall be suspended from the exercise of his military functions, receiving the pay and allowance of his rank, until the honourable the court of directors shall signify their pleasure upon a case so important and extraordinary; his lordship in council has taken the proceedings of the said court martial into the most serious consideration; and as well in deference to the recommendation of the officer commanding the army, as from entire concurrence with his sentiments, has resolved to trans-

mit the proceedings to the honourable the court of directors by the earliest opportunity. His lordship in council is further pleased to order, that lieutenant-colonel Doveton, shall be suspended from the exercise of his military functions, receiving the pay and allowances of his rank, until the pleasure of the honourable court shall be known.

The governor-general in council cannot without extreme regret, publish to the army a formal dissent from the judgment of a tribunal, so much entitled, from the ends and nature of its institution, to respect, as a general court martial; but no establishment, devised and administered by men, can be exempt from human fallibility; and the consequences which must result from a tacit sanction of the principles on which this erroneous judgment must have been founded, appear to the governor-general in council so fundamentally subversive of every security which the law has wisely and providentally supplied against the greatest danger with which society can be menaced, that all the subordinate considerations of delicacy towards public bodies, or tenderness towards individuals, which might properly weigh in ordinary cases, must yield to the higher and paramount duty of providing for the permanent tranquillity and safety of the public.

The governor-general in council cannot, therefore, too distinctly avow his entire concurrence in the sentiments of the officer commanding the army on the present occasion, and his lordship in council will ever acknowledge the deep obligations of the British empire at large, as well as of this portion of it, to the firmness and energy with which major-gen. Gowdie has, with personal reluctance, no doubt, but with a manly devotion to his public duty, opposed the establishment of false and unmilitary principles, by withholding his confirmation of a sentence from which they would hereafter claim support; and has counteracted their pernicious tendency by a solemn assertion of those civil and military tenets which the legislature has, on this branch of our public duties, exclusively acknowledged, as conformable with the juster notions of the military character, or compatible with military trust. Those cardinal maxims are, that in every calamitous case of mutiny and revolt, whether partial or general, "or, on whatever pretext," that monstrous offence may seek to justify itself; the first obligation of every officer and soldier, is to oppose its progress by every effort of persuasion. His second is, to separate himself from the guilty; and the last and most sacred is, to join the standard of his sovereign, his employers, and his duty, and to strain every nerve of zeal, activity, and courage, in subduing the criminal party.

It is in conformity with these just and important principles, and with a lively sense of their powerful and decisive influence on the discipline of armies, and safety of the state, that the governor-general in council has deemed it expedient and necessary to adopt the firm and judicious advice of the officer commanding the army, and to postpone the indulgence of personal disposition, and every other inferior motive, to the more sacred care of providing, in an extraordinary conjuncture, for the interests and security of the public.

By order of the right honourable the governor-general in council,

(Signed) A. Falconar,
Chief Sec. to Govt.

By order of major-general Gowdie, commanding the army.

March 28.—By a late arrival from the gulph, letters have been received from captain Mearing, of the ship Euphrates, relating the fortunate escape of that vessel from an enemy's cruizer. The following is an extract from the accounts now received.

"Close to the tombs, March the 5th. On Sunday the 21st January, in latitude 17°-00' North, longitude 87° 30 East, at half past one, P. M. steering S. S. W. with a light breeze, from W. N. W. the man at the mast head reported a sail in sight, a point before the lee beam, bearing S. E. by E. and standing to the southward.

At half past three, P. M. the stranger hauled his wind, and stood directly for us. We pursued our course, and at seven, P. M. was about four miles directly astern, and in chase of us. During the night, we had light winds, and we could perceive with the glass, that we distanced him. At day-light, the stranger was about 5 miles astern, in full chase of us. At two P. M. on the 22d, the breeze freshened, and it was soon evident that the stranger was coming up with us. We had been employed from day-light, making additional sails, a large lower steering sail, two royal ditto, two water sails, and a sprit-sail, which were set in the afternoon; but, notwithstanding, the chase was gaining on us fast. At 30 minutes past five, P. M. the stranger hauled his head to the eastward, hoisted French colours, and fired a gun, which fell short of us. At 40 minutes past five, P. M. the Frenchman fired another gun, which fell short of us, about a cable's length on our quarter. The Frenchman having rounded to each time to fire, gave us an advantage, at least so far as to keep our distance till dark, (as before firing he was coming up with us fast.) At 6, P. M. after consulting with the officers, it was judged proper to lighten the ship; which was done at 7, P. M. from the extremes of her, by throwing overboard part of the cargo. The Frenchman was then within gunshot of us, astern. At 10, P. M. we appeared to get from him. The wind then shifting, we altered our course to S. W. bringing the wind on the starboard quarter, which I considered to be our best point of sailing. At midnight, the Frenchman losing way with us. At day-light, on the 23d, the chase astern 4 miles. At noon, the Frenchman still in chase of us, distant 5 miles. At 11 in the forenoon, saw another sail on the larboard bow, too far off to make out what she was. At 10 minutes past 3 P.M. the Frenchman hauled down his steering-sails, and stood to the wind on the larboard tack, (after a chase of 50 hours,) as we suppose, in chase of the ship seen from the mast-head. The vessel that chased us, is a long low ship, of 18 or 20 guns; her courses, top-sails, and top-gallant-sail, are much darker in the middle cloth, than the other parts of the sail; the topmast and lower steering-sails, are of the same dark-coloured canvas, as the middle cloths described;—she is painted with a dark broad yellow side, and shews her ports in it, and has a red vane at the main-top-gallant-mast-head, low bowsprit, and flying jib-boom. At 10 minutes past 5, P.M. saw the Frenchman engaging the stranger in the S. E. quarter.

The above written is copied from the log-book. I have now a few observations to make, and, in the first place to regret, that we were under the necessity of throwing overboard any part of the cargo. But I did not think it prudent to throw the guns overboard. And the ship's provision and water was so situated, that could we have thrown it overboard with the same dispatch, it would not have accelerated the ship's sailing in the same degree. My anxiety during the chase was very great; and I have to commend in the highest manner, the conduct of Mr. Wilson and Mr. Haram, the chief and second mates, for their exertions in making the new sails, and for the attention they paid to the ship throughout the chase. I had shaped a course for Madras, and continued it, till after dark, that the Frenchman might suppose that I was going there, to give information to the ships of war.—I think, as we brought him well over to the westward in the chase, (in lat. 14° 24' longitude 85° 20 East,) that he will quit the bay. I shall, if an opportunity offers, send a description of the ship to Madras and Bombay. I should mention, that every man was stationed to the guns, and small arms; and had the Frenchman come alongside, we should have endeavoured to have given him a warm reception."

The general court martial, lately sitting at Bangalore, has been dissolved. And the officers, who remain for trial, on charges connected with the recent commotions on the coast, are to be brought before the court martial, to assemble at Wallajah

bad, of which Colonel Wilkinson is president.

MADRAS

Occurrences for April.

APRIL 14th.

General orders by the right honourable the governor-general in council, Fort St. George, April 5th, 1810.

The officers undernamed, viz.

T. F. De Havilland, captain of engineers, George Cadell, captain 12th regiment Native infantry, Hugh M'Intosh, captain 8th regiment Native infantry, F. K. Aiskell, captain 15th regiment Native infantry, A. Andrews, captain Madras European regt. James Patterson, major 11th regt. N. I. George Wahab, major 21st regiment Native infantry, James Sadler, captain 24th regiment Native infantry, J. I. Lushington, captain 4th regiment Native cavalry, A. M'Leod, captain 8th regiment Native cavalry, C. Hopkinson, captain-lieutenant artillery, G W. Poignand, captain lieutenant artillery, Thomas Pollock, captain 12th regiment Native infantry, Matthew Stewart, major 17th regiment Native infantry,

Having accepted the alternative allowed to them by the general orders of the 25th September, 1809, of dismissal from the service of the honorable company, instead of trial by court martial, the right honourable the governor-general in council accordingly hereby announces in orders, their dismissal from the service of the honorable company from this date, and directs that they do immediately repair to the presidency for the purpose of placing themselves under the charge of the town-major of Fort St. George, and proceeding to England, agreeably to the orders of the honorable the court of directors, with the exception of major James Patterson, who is permitted to remain in India.

General orders by government, April 6, 1810.

The right honorable the governor-general in council is happy to observe, by the following extract from a letter from the officer commanding in chief, that the confidence in the attachment and discipline of the native army under this presidency, which was manifested by the recent determination of the government to employ a respectable detachment from it, upon foreign service, has been fully justified by the alacrity and ardor with which not only the troops selected for that duty, but several other corps, have volunteered for foreign service; and his lordship requests that major-general Gowdie will convey to the whole of these troops the expression of his warm approbation, of the zeal, fidelity, and military spirit by which their conduct has been distinguished on this important occasion.

The right honourable the governor-general in council is happy to avail himself of this opportunity of expressing his fullest approbation of the meritorious and zealous exertions on this occasion, of the officers whose names have been brought to his notice by major-general Gowdie.

Major-general Gowdie is requested to order the promotions of lance havildars and Naigues recommended in the last paragraphs of the adjutant-general's letter.

Extract of a letter from the adjutant-general of the army, dated 23d of March, 1810.

The officer commanding the army has directed me to request that you will lay the enclosed copies of reports from No. 1 to No. 9, before the right honorable the governor - general in council.

The subject of these reports contain so unequivocal a proof of the fidelity, zeal, and attachment, of the native army, that major-general Gowdie cannot suppress the expression of his earnest hope, that they may meet the public notice of government, nor are the merits of the European officers who have so conspicuously evinced their zeal for the public service, less entitled to the major-general's approbation, and he has desired me to request, that in bringing these reports to the notice of government, you will do him the favor to notice the following officers in command or charge of corps, who have distinguished themselves by a zeal for the public service, and an example of the fidelity and worth of the native troops, as honorable to themselves as it must be gratifying to government.

Lieutenant-colonel Orrock commanding 2d battalion 3d regiment, major Fraser in charge of 1st 5th, Vernon in charge of 2d

12th, Farran 2d 21st, captain Rockhead 1st 6th, Smith 6th cavalry, West 3d, Smithwaite pioneers.

It would be also an injustice not to notice here, the zeal and spirit displayed by the 2d battalion 20th regiment, and 2d battalion 15th regiment, in volunteering for the corps formed for Bencoolen, and major-general Gowdie has directed me to express the sense he entertains of the conduct manifested by majors M'Cally and Gurnell on that occasion.

The officer commanding the army has directed me to state, that in thus performing so pleasing a part of his duty, he considers it unnecessary to report specifically, that all the native details for foreign service are complete, as this report comprehends an amount of near 7000 native troops, and equal to three times the number that the government have called for, he at the same time is confident that many other corps on the establishment have only wanted the opportunity to evince the same laudable zeal for the service, and spirit of military enterprize.

The officer commanding the army requests the sanction of the right honorable the governor-general in council to promote the lance havildars and Naigues recommended by major-general Warde and colonel Wilkinson, from the date they volunteered, and to return them as supernumeraries on the strength of their respective corps, until vacancies occur to bring them on the effective strength.

On Saturday last his excellency lieutenant-general George Hewett, commander-in-chief of his majesty's and the honourable company's forces in the East Indies, arrived on his majesty's ship Modeste, the honourable John Elliot, from Calcutta.

From the late hour at which the frigate came to an anchor, his excellency did not land until Sunday morning, when the troops in garrison were under arms, for the purpose of paying those military honours, to which the commander-in-chief in India is entitled.

The right honourable the governor-general, the honourable the governor, the members of government, the commander of the forces, and the principal civil and military officers at the presidency, were on the parade to receive his excellency on his landing.

The general, after passing through the street which had been formed by the troops, proceeded to the Ameer Baug with the right honourable the governor-general, and shortly after to the gardens of Sir Benjamin Sulivan, which had been prepared for his reception.

The grenadier company of his majesty's 69th regiment, with its officers, and a colour, was sent to head-quarters as a guard, which was politely declined by the general, and the usual guard of sepoys substituted.

On Tuesday at eleven o'clock, his excellency took his seat at the council board, under the salute due to his rank, and immediately after, the following order was promulgated by the right honourable the governor-general in council.

G. O. By Government.

His excellency lieutenant-general Hewett, commander-in-chief of his majesty's and of the company's forces in India, having arrived at Fort St. George, all officers and soldiers under this presidency are hereby directed to obey him as commander-in-chief in India accordingly.

By order of the right honourable the governor-general in council.

(Signed) A. FALCONAR,
Chief sec. to govt.

The officers of his excellency's staff were likewise announced to the army from head-quarters by the subjoined general order.

G. O. By the Commander in Chief in India.

The following staff officers having accompanied his excellency lieutenant-general Hewett, commander in chief of his majesty's and the company's forces in India to this presidency, all officers are directed to acknowledge them accordingly.

Adjt.-gen. K. T.	Lieut.-col. Sir W. G. Kier,
Qr.-mr.-gen. do.	Col. Eden, 84th foot.
Deputy do. do.	Maj. Johnson, 86th do.
Mil. sec.	Lieut.-col. P. Carey, 86th do.

Mil. sec. Capt. Hewett, 22d foot.
Persian Interpreter, Do. W. Sturrock, 16th R. B. N. I.

(Signed) C. B. M. JOHNSTON,
Act. Assist. Adjt.-gen. of the army.

APRIL 21. G. O. The right-honourable the governor-general in council, with a view to improve the present mode of medical treatment of horses in the cavalry on this establishment, is pleased to direct, that an institution, to be denominated the Madras Veterinary Establishment, shall be formed at the presidency, under the immediate direction of his excellency the commander-in-chief, for the purpose of educating and instructing in the Veterinary art a number of boys not exceeding 48, who will ultimately be posted to regiments of cavalry with the rank and pay of European farriers.

The right honourable the governor-general in council is pleased to appoint Mr. Joseph Errat to be a veterinary surgeon upon this establishment, on the pay of 45 star pagodas per month, and the half batta and other allowances of a cornet of cavalry from this date, to appoint him to the medical charge of the honourable the governor's body guard, and the superintendence of the Madras veterinary establishment.

The boys to be educated at the Madras veterinary establishment are to be entitled for the service of the cavalry, and his excellency the commander-in-chief is requested to give necessary orders for bringing them upon the effective strength of corps: but they must be returned "absent on command attached to the Madras veterinary establishment," and when corps are complete to their establishments, they are to be returned as supernumeraries.

The Mandarin, a Dutch sloop of war, under command of lieutenant Vidall, of his majesty's ship Cornwallis, arrived in these roads on Saturday last from Amboyna, with dispatches to his excellency rear-admiral Drury, announcing the important intelligence of the success of his majesty's ships Cornwallis, Dover, and Samarang, in an attack on Amboyna.

A detachment of the Madras European regiment, under the command of captain Phillips, and of the coast artillery, under captain Court, with the marines and seamen of the ships, amounting to about 400 men, were landed, under a bombardment from the ships, and by a most daring and successful attack succeeded in surprising the enemy and gaining possession of the place.

The Mandarin, Bambang, Madurosa, Margaretta Louisa, and Hope armed ships, and six merchantmen, fell into the hands of our squadron; and the public property captured, in spice and other articles, on the island, is computed at near three hundred thousand pounds sterling.

The loss on our side is extremely trifling, lieutenant Stewart of the coast artillery was slightly wounded in the hand, and five privates were killed and wounded.

A body of Javanese troops has been raised for the defence of the place, under the command of captain Phillips, and captain Court, senior officer, is in command of Amboyna.

APRIL 28.—A session of Oyer and Terminer, and general gaol delivery, commenced on Wednesday the 18th current, at the court-house in Fort St. George, before the honourable Sir Thomas Andrew Strange, Knt. chief Justice, and concluded on Wednesday last.

On Tuesday the following convicts were bought up, and after a most impressive address from the chief justice, severally received sentence of death.

John Burke, a private in his majesty's 59th regiment, found guilty of wilfully and maliciously shooting at Alexander Macdonal, a serjeant belonging to the same regiment. This man was indicted under the Black act, which makes the offence capital, although death did not ensue.

Leonard Money, a private in the same regiment, found guilty of the wilful murder of William Butler, a serjeant belonging to the same regiment.

William M'Craw, a serjeant in his Majesty's 33d regiment, found guilty of the wilful murder of James

Gibson, a private in the same regiment.

Mootoo Sawmy, a Bramin, found guilty of the wilful murder of Buchee Boyce, a native woman, by strangling her with a rope in a pagoda at St. Thome.

Chinniah, a peon lately employed by the board of trade, was sentenced to seven years transportation to Prince of Wales's island, for stealing a watch, chain, and seals, the property of John Casamaijor, esq. a member of the said board.

On Thursday last, his excellency the commander-in-chief paid a visit of ceremony to his highness the nabob of Arcot—the arrival and departure of the general from Chepauk palace, were announced by salutes of seventeen guns; and yesterday morning royal salutes were fired from the garrison, on his highness returning the visit at the garden house of his excellency on Choultry plain.

MADRAS

Occurrences for May.

May 5th.—On Saturday last, Sir Francis Macnaghten was sworn in at the court-house, and took his seat on the bench as one of his majesty's puisne justices at the supreme court of judicature at this presidency. A salute of 17 guns was fired from the fort on the occasion.

May 10th.---The force left by colonel Close for the defence of the Berar frontier, is composed of four battalions of native infantry, two regiments of native cavalry, a company of European artillery men, and a company of pioneers.

Native accounts of respectable authority give reason to believe, that the troops of Ameer Khan have regained possession of Seronge.

May 12th.---On Tuesday last, the right honourable the governor-general held a levee at the Ameer Baug, on the occasion of his lordship's departure for the seat of the supreme government, and at five in the afternoon his lordship entered the fort, where the troops in garrison were under arms, for his lordship's reception.

His lordship walked through the street, formed on the occasion, attended by the honourable the governor, the honourable the chief justice, their excellencies the commanders-in-chief of the naval and military services, the members of government, general officers at the presidency, and the principal inhabitants of the settlement.

On reaching the beach, his lordship was received by his highness the Nabob, attended by his family and the chief Khans, and a numerous assemblage of the most respectable natives of Madras.

A salute of nineteen guns from the fort and Chepauk palace, announced his lordship's embarkation, and a like number of guns from his majesty's squadron, with their yards manned, on his arrival on board the Modeste.

May 19th.---The right honourable the governor-general in council has much satisfaction in publishing, for general information, the following detailed report of the brilliant achievement effected by a detachment of the coast artillery, the Madras European regiment, and parties of the seamen and royal marines of his majesty's ships Cornwallis and Dover, under the command of captain Court, of the former corps, in the attack and final conquest of the enemy's forts and batteries at the settlement of Amboyna.

To captain Edward Tucker, commanding his Britannic majesty's ships and forces employed on the expedition to the eastward.

Sir,

I have the honour to report to you, by this the earliest opportunity afforded me, the operations of the troops and seamen employed under my command, in the attack upon the enemy's outposts on the 16th instant.

The force destined for this service, composed of the number of men named in the margin,* having landed about two o'clock, P. M. agreeably to

* Detachment 2d battalion of artillery 46
Madras European regiment 130
Seamen and royal marines from H. M.'s ship Dover 85

your orders; and being formed according to the instructions I had previously given; the advanced party under captain Phillips, consisting of 30 rank and file, of the detachment 2d battalion, artillery under lieutenant Stewart, the detachment of royal marines from his majesty's ship Dover, under lieutenant Higginson, and a detachment of one company of the Madras European regiment, with a party of seamen from his majesty's ship Dover, under lieutenant Jefferies, in all about 180 men, was directed to attack the battery at Wannitoo, situated on the top of a small hill of a most commanding height and position, and defended by the ordnance expressed in the margin.*

This, the most advanced post of the enemy, and commanding the shore at Portuguese bay, was attacked with that gallantry, promptitude, and judgment which were to be expected from the exertions and talents of that distinguished officer, captain Phillips, of the Madras European regiment, and was immediately carried, notwithstanding the determined opposition of the enemy, who had two officers killed, and one desperately wounded, after the entrance of our party into the battery.

Under the able directions of lieutenant Duncan Stewart (who, though wounded, continued at his post) three of the guns were immediately brought to bear upon the enemy in his retreat, and subsequently upon the enemy's post at Batta Gantong, which had opened a fire upon our troops at Wannitoo on their taking possession thereof.

With the remaining force† I proceeded along the height to turn the enemy's position at Batta Gantong, situated about 1,500 yards distant from, and nearly on the same level with, that at Wannitoo, and which commanded the town of Amboyna and fort Victoria. This party endured, with the greatest spirit and patience, a most fatiguing and troublesome march, ascending and decending hills, over which there was no road, and many of them so extremely steep, as to require the assistance of the bushes for the men to get up and down by; their toils were, however, rewarded by our reaching a little after sunset an eminence, which effectually commanded the enemy, and by the satisfaction we experienced on finding that we had pursued the only mode of attack against this post (so strong by the nature of the ground on every other side) which offered not a probability of success otherwise than by a great sacrifice of lives.

The enemy, who was collected in some numbers, retired immediately we were perceived on the height above them, and we entered the battery without opposition, when we found the ordnance named in the margin.‡

The consequences of our success in obtaining possession of Wannitoo and Batta Gantong, were observed by the desertion on the part of the enemy, of two batteries which had annoyed the ships, and which became exposed to our commanding fire.

One of these batteries, called the Wooyo battery, is situated on the shore.

Seamen and royal marines from H. M.'s ship Cornwallis........................ 105
Seamen from H. M.'s sloop Samarang........................ 35

Total of all descriptions........................ 401
N. B. Officers included.

* Ordnance iron 12 pounders........................ 5
Ditto 8 ditto........................ 2
Ditto 6 ditto........................ 2
Howitzers brass 5 and a half inch........................ 2

† Company M. E. regiment under captain Forbes.
The seamen and marines from H. M.'s ship Cornwallis.
The seamen and marines from H. M.'s sloop Samarang.
15 Artillery men.—This body was under the immediate orders of captain Forbes, who fulfilled the duties of this charge to my greatest satisfaction.

‡ Ordnance iron 12 pounders........................ 4
Ditto 9 ditto........................ 1

The other is erected upon piles, some distance in the sea—They were both well calculated for defence against a naval attack, and were covered by a very thick parapet. --- The ordnance found in them are expressed in the margin.*

During the night of the 16th inst. two 12 pounders and one 9 pounder were relieved of their spikes, in the Batta Gantong battery---which, on the following day, were brought to fire on the fort.--- The enemy returned our fire (which continued until your summons for the surrender of the town) with shells; but without effect.

Our loss in obtaining our advantages was trifling in comparison with the importance of their consequences, and considering the obstacles the troops had to surmount.

In expressing my sentiments of the conduct of the officers and men employed on this occasion, I cannot speak too highly of their exertions, to which, and the formidable fire the enemy had experienced from the ships, must be attributed the early surrender of this colony.

I hav already, I hope, done justice to the military conduct of captain Phillips, to whom I am likewise under the greatest obligation for his advice.---You are aware, Sir, how much the service is indebted to that officer, for the very important assistance derived from his knowledge of the Malay language.

To captain Forbes of the Madras European regiment I owe every acknowledgment for the benefit of his judgment and his advice.

Lieutenant Duncan Stewart attached to the artillery, to whose lot it fell to head the party against Wannitoo, acted most nobly up to his station, he was the first that entered the battery---and gave the Dutch officers an opportunity to surrender, which generous offer was on their part declined: he continued to perform his duty throughout the service, notwithstanding a severe cut he received in the hand.

Lieutenant Jeffries of the royal navy received a concussion in the breast from a spent grape shot, but I am happy to say we were at no period deprived of his valuable assistance.

It is but justice due to the royal marines, troops, and seamen, to make known to you the steadiness with which they advanced against Wannitoo, under a heavy fire from the enemy of grape and musquetry; not a shot was fired until they reached the breast work of the battery—such a testimony of their valour and conduct, while highly honourable to the royal marines and troops, must reflect more than ordinary credit on the seamen.

The capitulation of the town has prevented the further necessity of the troops and seamen displaying that valour and steadiness which had been so conspicuous in every part of their conduct throughout this service, and which their undiminished ardour gave every reason to conclude, would have been attended with similar success, although opposed to the more formidable defences of Battameera and Gillaia.

I have herewith the honor to enclose a return of ordnance mounted on the castle of Victoria, and on the several batteries to the right and left thereof.

The return of stores is too voluminous to enable me at present to transmit it to you.

(Signed) M. H. Court,
Captain commanding the troops employed in the expedition Eastward.

Fort Victoria, 27th *February*, 1810.

* Woyoo battery	No.
Ordnance, iron, 12 pounders	4
Ditto 8 ditto	1
Ditto 6 ditto	2
Brass carronades, 32 pounders	1
Battery in the sea.	
Ordnance, iron 12 pounders.	9
Brass Carronades 32 ditto.	1

KILLED.—Royal marines 1 corporal; M. E. regt. 2 privates; royal navy, 1 seaman.

WOUNDED.—Detachment 2d bat. artillery 1 lieutenant, 1 corporal; royal marines, 1 ditto; M. E. regt. 4 privates, royal navy, 4 sailors.

To W. A. Montague, Esq. commanding his majesty's ship Cornwallis.

DEAR SIR,

We, the undermentioned officers of the honourable company's service, who embarked on board his majesty's ship Cornwallis, proceeding on an expedition to the eastward, return you our most sincere thanks for the great kindness and civility we experienced from you whilst under your command. We also beg the favour of your conveying to your officers our thanks for the obligations we are under to them for their attention to us on every occasion, and we feel ourselves much gratified in thus having an opportunity of expressing a sense of their kindness.

To the harmony which has subsisted between the two services, and which you have always endeavoured to promote, we in a great measure attribute our late glorious success.

Your character stands already too high in public estimation for us to enter upon; but we cannot refrain from expressing our sentiments of admiration at the gallánt manner in which we observed his majesty's ship Cornwallis engaging the batteries at this place,

As a small tribute of our esteem and regard, we request the favour of your acceptance of a sword, value one hundred guineas. That success, health, and happiness, may ever attend you, is the sincere wish of

Your's, very obediently,
DAVID FORBES, captain,
DUNCAN STEWART, lieut. of the coast army.
HUGH KYD, lieut. M. E. R.
JOHN CURSHAM,
R. WILLIAMS, ensign, M. E. R.

*Fort Victoria, Amboyna,
7th March.*

To captain David Forbes, and the officers late serving on board his majesty's ship Cornwallis.

GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your letter, wherein you express, in flattering terms, the sentiments you entertain of my conduct during the time you were on board the Cornwallis.

The sword you request my acceptance of I receive with pleasure, and shall wear it as a proud testimony of the regard of officers, whose conduct in public service has excited my admiration, and in private society my esteem.

Should it in the course of service be our lot again to serve together, I only hope that we may be actuated by the same ideas, and animated by the same spirit, as we have been on this occasion.—The officers of the Cornwallis feel highly gratified in having had an opportunity of exercising the rights of hospitality to the officers of the company's troops embarked on board this ship. They also feel assured, that the same harmony would exist on every future occasion where they may be employed together.

I beg you will accept my best wishes for your health and success, and believe me, with grateful esteem, Gentlemen,

Your most faithful servant,
W. A. MONTAGUE.

H. M. Ship Cornwllais, off Amboyna, March 8th, 1810.

The expedition for foreign service, under command of lieutenant-colonel Fraser, of his majesty's 86th regiment, sailed on Tuesday last, under a strong convoy to the southward.

On Friday morning, William Mac Crae, late a serjeant in his majesty's 33d regiment, and Mootoo Sawmy, a Brahmin, were executed for murder, pursuant to their sentence. The former evinced great penitence, and exhorted the spectators to take example by his untimely end, and avoid drunkenness, which had led to the commission of the crime for which he was about to suffer.

Leonard Mooney, also under sentence of death, was ordered to be taken for execution to Bangalore, and to suffer in the presence of his majesty's 59th regiment.

John Burke, capitally convicted for wilfully and maliciously shooting and wounding serjeant Macdonald, was respited until his majesty's pleasure should be known.

MADRAS
Occurrences for June.

JUNE 5.—Yesterday being the anniversary of his Majesty's birth, a salute of seventy-two guns was, corresponding with the age his majesty attained, fired from the saluting battery of fort St. George at sunrise, and a royal salute at noon. A like number of guns were also repeated, at the above hours, from the battery of Chepauk palace, the residence of his highness the Nabob.

In the evening, the honourable the governor entertained the members of council, the judges, the staff of the army, and the principal civil servants, and other inhabitants of the presidency, at dinner, in the banqueting room, in honour of the day.

Extract of a letter from Bangalore, 31st May, 1810.

His Majesty's 25th dragoons, 59th and 33d foot, and four native corps, were under arms this morning, to witness the execution of Leonard Mooney, of his majesty's 59th regiment, convicted of murder at the last sessions. The unfortunate man was very penitent, and having obtained permission of colonel Gibbs to address his comrades, he did so in a most impressive manner, warning them to avoid intemperance, which had brought him to a shameful and untimely end. He then mounted the scaffold with firmness, and died as became a man in his unhappy situation.

Extract of a letter from Jaulnah, dated May, 19, 1810.

I arrived here this morning with colonel Conran's force.

There is good hunting and shooting about twelve miles from this place, but it is dangerous from the number of wild beasts.—I had yesterday a most miraculous escape.

I usually go out on the flank, and yesterday was beating down a Nullah parrallel to our line, and about three hundred yards distant; I had killed one hare, and was anxiously looking out for another.

The place appeared by no means dangerous, because the bushes were low and insulated, but yet in one of these did my Beatee discover one of the largest tygers I ever saw.

The circumstances were as follow:—I was passing on at my usual slow pace, and taking care that every bush was well beaten. I arrived at a low and narrow, but rather long bush, and had passed to the further end, when my Beatee cried out Saheb, Saheb,—Baugh Baugh! I withdrew a few paces; put two balls into each barrel of my gun, over the shot; sent one man to call assistance from the line, and was endeavouring to get sight of the animal, as the man who remained was pointing out his head, his legs, and his face, but my endeavours were vain—my bad eyes led me into the greatest peril, for finding that I could not see him, I unwisely concluded, that he was further off than my Beatee declared and, with my gun cocked, I advanced, crouching towards the bush, as I expected to see him through the branches, near the ground, which seldom have any foliage—but could not get a glimpse of him—when lo! as I had just touched the outer sprays, the monster rose, not a yard from me, and rushed out with a roar that withdrew all my strength.

It appeared as if the bush was coming up by the root—he brushed me in passing, and sprang at my beatee, when, to my astonishment, I witnessed more courage and presence of mind than I ever hope to see again—as the tiger was springing, the man, undismayed struck at him with his bamboo, full in the face, and the tyger turned off. I had neither presence of mind nor strength to fire, and perhaps it is fortunate I did not. The tiger thereupon turned about, and then galloped at some distance past us, and in sight of the whole line of baggage. Four men were killed by a tiger on the road, and I have no doubt but it was by this one; you will agree that I had a narrow escape, for it was wonderful that he did not spring on one of us on first beating the bush, and more wonderful that he did not paw me in passing, for he actually touched me. The only reason that can be given is,

that he must have been gorged. If I had possessed your eyes, I must have killed him, when within two or even six yards. I could easily have lodged four balls in his head, and I had a brace of pistols to have finished it.

JUNE 30.—The officers of the 2d battalion, 4th regt. Native infantry, have evinced their regard and esteem for their late much-lamented commanding officer, lieutenant-colonel BERKELY, by a resolution to erect a monument to his memory, and to wear mourning on the melancholy occasion, for one month.

MADRAS

Occurrences for July.

JULY 6th.—His excellency rear admiral Drury landed from his majesty's ship Bucephalus, captain Pelly, on Sunday last, under the salute due to his rank.

The Russel, captain Caulfield, having sprung a leak at sea, his excellency shifted his flag to the Bucephalus, and the Russel returned to Trincomallee.

Extract of a Letter.

The Nereide frigate, on the 25th of April, about two o'clock in the morning, landed about one hundred men, four miles to the southward of Port Jaquete, at the Mauritius, and marched up to the fort. At break of day they took possession of the batteries, spiked all the guns, and carried off the commandant, (a lieutenant-colonel in the French service,) and sixteen men. While proceeding with their prisoners to the frigate, they boarded and carried off a national schooner, with her commander, (a lieutenant); and his crew. On the 27th of the same month, a flag of truce was sent out to the commodore of the English squadron, from general de Caen, for the release of the lieutenant-colonel, which was immediately complied with, in exchange for sixteen privates of his majesty's 69th regiment.

To captain W. Nesbitt, of the H. C. S. Huddart.

DEAR SIR,

Deeply impressed with feelings of the highest respect and gratitude, we conceive ourselves called upon, in this public manner, to return our sincere thanks for your unwearied attention to our comfort and happiness during our passage from England.

A constant solicitude to remove every inconvenience, and to lighten, by the most affable politeness, the tedious hours of a long voyage, marked your conduct from the moment we embarked, till we arrived in India.

We assure you, that we shall ever entertain a lively remembrance of the many happy hours we spent in the ship you command, and request you to accept of our warmest wishes for your welfare and happiness.

With the greatest respect we remain,

Dear Sir,

Your's obediently,

Signed by Mr. and Mrs. BLUNT,
Mr. and Mrs. WAKEFORD,
T. B. TANELY.
H. BAGGOT.

Madras, July 9th, 1810.

Captain Nesbitt's reply.

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I cannot but feel highly gratified with the very kind manner you express yourselves of my conduct and the attention I have ever thought it my duty to pay you whilst on board the Huddart.

Permit me, however, to say, that I could scarcely have acted otherwise, to those whose excellent conduct throughout our passage has been such as to demand my warmest acknowledgments.

Most sincerely wishing you every happiness, I remain,

Ladies and gentlemen,

Your most obedient friend & servant,

W. NESBITT.

Huddart, 10th July, 1810.

To A. H. Hamilton, Esq. British Commissioner, &c. &c. Tranquebar.

SIR,

Upon the resignation of the important situation you have held for a considerable time, over this settlement, we, the undersigned inhabitants, cannot omit the opportunity of paying the tribute due to probity and benevolence, by conveying to you the high and grateful sense we entertain of your in-

variable exercise of those great qualities, and to declare the unfeigned and lasting esteem it has impressed us with.

As the unavoidable consequences of the war had reduced the frugal means of many an industrious individual to absolute indigence, it has been owing to your humane interference with your generous government, that their situations have been alleviated, and relief been afforded to the distressed.

The mild and equitable laws of Denmark have in you met a supporter, through which they have continued to be respected and rendered beneficial to those for whom they were calculated, and in every instance, liberality and justice have distinguished the management of the public affairs of this settlement.

While we regret our loss on your departure, we learn, with peculiar satisfaction, that a wide field of prosperity is open to you in your native land, where we wish you, and the amiable descendant of an illustrious Danish patriot, which you have chosen as your consort, may long enjoy that happiness and consideration, which worth and respectability have a full claim to.

We have the honour to remain, with the greatest esteem,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servants,

(Signed) HERMANSON, O. C. Stricker, lieut.-col. Lindgreen, F. Kaas, J. Rebiling, F. Halkier, Muhldorff, E. Brunet, L. Lutter, A. W. Ruhde, J. G. Meinhardt, Jens Due, J. Bendsier, J. Lingaard, C. T. Boalth, A. F. Wiehe, J. D. Stricker, C. S. John, August Cœmmerer, J. G. Klein, J. Holmich, Wodschow, G. N. Halse, Gotting, E. K. Muller, F. I. D. Wickede, G. Bulow, S. Bech, G. L. Meinhardt, E. I. C. Faith, J. Daemon, D. Schreyvogel, W. D. Becker, J. L. Meyer, Frusenberg, M. Hopff, F. Sundt.

Tranquebar, July 14th, 1810.

To his excellency Mr. Hermanson, late Danish governor, &c. Tranquebar.

SIR,

In transmitting through the channel of your excellency, my answer to the address with which I have been honored from the civil and military officers of the late Danish government, and the most respectable Danish inhabitants of Tranquebar, I cannot avoid expressing the grateful esteem with which I am impressed towards your excellency, not only for your urbanity and attention, but for the ready assistance and co-operation I have uniformly experienced from your excellency in carrying into effect particular arrangements connected with my duty as commissioner for the affairs of this settlement.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of consideration,

Sir,

Your most obedient,

humble servant,

(Signed) A. H. HAMILTON.

To his excellency Mr. Hermanson, Mr. Lindgreen, colonel Stricker, colonel Muhldorff and the other civil and military officers of his Danish majesty, and the principal Danish inhabitants of Tranquebar.

GENTLEMEN,

While I acknowledge, with sentiments of respect, the approbation which you have been pleased to bestow upon my endeavours to alleviate the calamities necessarily concomitant on a state of warfare, it might appear to be arrogating more merit to myself than I feel entitled to, were I to omit stating the causes which may have materially affected the success of my measures.

Great Britain is the natural friend of Denmark, and although war actually exists between the countries, a circumstance to be attributed more to the fatality of the times, than to any other cause: it is, in the present instance, as on all occasions, the ardent desire of the British government to avert, as much as possible, the horrors of war from private persons. Therefore, in the work of mitigating the distresses of individuals, I have been merely the humble but willing agent of recommendation to the authority possessing the power and inclination to realize my endeavours.

The efficacy I have been enabled to give to the laws, is owing, in a very

great degree, to the laudable decorum and sobriety, as well as the respect for those laws, with which the majority of the inhabitants of Tranquebar is actuated.

In return for your good wishes you have my grateful thanks; and with sincere desires for your prosperity and welfare,

I remain, Gentlemen,
your most faithful and
obedient servant,
(Signed) A. Hamilton Hamilton.

July 26th—On Tuesday the 10th current, a session of Oyer and Terminer, and general gaol delivery, commenced at the court-house in Fort St. George, before the honorable the chief justice, and Mr. Justice Macnaghten.

After the grand jury had been sworn, the honorable Sir Francis Macnaghten addressed them in the following terms:

Gentlemen of the grand jury,

Whatever we may have to lament in the business which is to come before us, it cannot but afford us the greatest pleasure to find, that a single offence does not appear to have been committed within the wide range of the Madras police.

My residence here has not been so long as to give me much experience, and my illness since my arrival, has prevented me from obtaining so much information as I otherwise might have had.

If the place had been disorderly we should all have charged the police with the blame of it; in common justice, therefore, they are entitled to our praise for its good order—and if offences had been committed, we must take it for granted that they would have been brought before us.

It is certainly a most extraordinary thing, and every body must feel it to be a most pleasing one, that in a population consisting of so many hundreds of thousands, not one offence in the course of three months should have been committed to call for the interference of the court in its criminal jurisdiction.

There is a crime which was committed in the neighbourhood of Cannanore that will be brought before you---and whether it be considered with reference to the crime itself, or in relation to the persons upon whom it is charged, is certainly of a very alarming nature.

It is the crime of robbery, charged upon two of the king's soldiers, and greatly aggravated by the character of the parties upon whom it is charged—That the people under our protection should be despoiled of their property is bad enough, but that they should be set upon and robbed by those whose duty and profession it is to act in their defence, is infinitely worse.

But great as this offence is, its magnitude diminishes, its colours fade away when compared with those gratuitous murders which have of late years stained and disgraced the records of the court—I know not how to speak of them with adequate abhorrence---although they are unhappily even familiar to us, they cannot but shock the feelings, and confound the speculations of every man who hears of them.

As homicides, they are in direct defiance to that sacred code which has the Almighty for its author and man's salvation for its end—They cannot be accounted for upon the ground of frailty, or ascribed to any of the human infirmities---Our first parents gave a proof of the weakness of our nature—They were tempted and they fell—But it was reserved for this age, and for this country, to exhibit to us a phenomenon in vice—to set forth an example of guilt in the abstract---and to shew us the perpetration of the deepest of crimes, without the slightest of temptations.

When we look towards those atrocious deeds, we see them frightful from their deformity even as murders, and horrible from the darkness with which they are surrounded---in vain do we seek for light to direct us to a motive---It is a crime which so far transcends all our notions of guilt, that there is not in the human mind any standard or any scale by which its enormity can be measured.

In vain does philosophy explore the heart of man, in vain does memory

recur to history for its likeness---It is sui generis. It has no prototype---no example---It is only to be sought for in the regions of darkness---whence conjecture will return sickened and stupified from the pursuit; leaving it to the heart to teach us an example of the profoundest humility, by informing us that we partake of a common nature with such malefactors.

A case of homicide will now be laid before you and if I am to judge from the informations, it would be almost a contempt of the law even to tell you that it is clearly a case of murder—It is as it is charged, murder compounded of its strongest ingredients—most deliberately prepensed—wilful from malice alone—and malicious in the extreme, with an entire concurrence of the will.

It differs indeed from the cases of which I have spoken, and glares upon us with a hideousness peculiar to itself—its motive appears to have been the worst of human passions—revenge—and the only light it affords resembles that destructive fire which terrifies the soul as it strikes upon its object—which only glances through the gloom or casts a coruscation into darkness—Like lightening to the benighted traveller, it shows us nothing but the blackness and the horrors of the scene.

I would not have you suppose, gentlemen, that such guilt is to be taken for granted—God forbid! I state the crime to you as it appears charged in the informations—you will take care to keep the accused and the accusation distinct from each other—the case will be laid before you, and you will judge for yourselves.—Upon the nature of the offence we must all agree—upon the nature of the evidence you will decide, and I fervently wish that some other doubt may appear beside that, which must necessarily arise in every good mind from the bare incredibility of such nefariousness.

An European and a native are said to have fallen by this act, and a native is said to have been the object of the robbery of which I have spoken—You will I am sure, gentlemen, anticipate me in what I am about to say, that from the defenceless state of the natives, and their harmless conduct, we ought to be particularly careful in guarding them from wrong.—That we are bound by every principle of policy as well as justice to attend to their complaints, and to redress their injuries. They are the subjects of England, and we not their tyrants, although their rulers.---All government is bottomed upon the reciprocal duties of obedience and protection, and if we expect their submission, we must yield them our protection.

It is your duty, gentlemen, to be satisfied of the guilt of the party, as well as you can be, without entering into his defence before you send him here for his trial. I state this particularly, for of late it has been the practice of some places to consider the grand jury room as little more than a formal passage for the party accused to the bar of the criminal court.—The practice I believe has never been countenanced here--- yet those who encourage it give a reason in its defence---and the reason is plausible though fallacious.

It is said that by sending the party to his trial he is one way or other disposed of---whereas, if the bills are not found at one sessions they may be preferred at another, and he will thus be subject to repeated vexations.

All this is true---but it only applies to cases in which there is a deficiency of evidence, and one observation may be sufficient as an answer---that is, you cannot consistently with your oaths act upon this principle.

Independent of this, I must tell you, that it is the genius of our law to throw up every possible guard for the protection of the subject, and we say, no man shall suffer unless two juries of twelve each, concur in his condemnation—that is, twelve of the grand jury must agree in the finding the bill a true one—and the petty jury of the twelve must be unanimous in his conviction. The doctrine I have alluded to would take from the subject the outwork which the constitution has raised for his defence—and

although an innocent man need never, I hope, fear the consequence of being brought before a British tribunal, it is, nevertheless, your duty to protect him even from that, unless it appear probable to you that his guilt will be established on his trial.

But although our laws are on the one hand thus anxious to keep the innocent from trial; they are as anxious, on the other, to bring the guilty to punishment.

Suppose the case of a guilty man to be brought before you without evidence sufficient to shew you the probability of his guilt. Will you find the bill? If so what will be the consequence? He his put upon his trial and acquitted; although, at a future time, sufficient evidence might be adduced to substantiate his guilt. I mention this to shew you not only the unreasonableness of the doctrine, but the absurdity of the reason which is urged in its support.

I am not aware that any case at all connected with the late proceedings in this court, will be brought before you.—If any should be, I am persuaded you will divest your minds of every consideration with respect to what has passed, and act as if nothing in relation to it had ever come to your knowledge before. We shall never, I trust, hear of parties within these walls, or of any thing but the merits of the case as they appear in evidence before us.

Parties, God knows! are bad enough any where, there is nothing more true than that to divide, is to weaken.—But whatever divisions may take place elsewhere, party must never obtrude itself into our courts of justice.—It implies partiality or prejudice, and is utterly incompatible with the administration of the law.—From this place we must shut all such considerations, and think of nothing but the most scrupulous discharge of our consciences to our country and our God.

Every one who knows any thing of the history of our country for the last twenty years, must be convinced that England has been saved from the wreck of Europe by the means of her judicature. Our judicature I may say, was the ark in which justice escaped from the general deluge that overwhelmed and desolated the continent—and justice has protected the nation in return for her own preservation.

Our laws have been kept uncontaminated amidst the foulness, and corruptions with which they were surrounded, and I hope they will extend in their purity to our most distant possessions. In proportion to their excellence, we shall justly be deemed infamous, and iniquitous in their bad administration.

An offence, gentlemen, of a very serious nature, in as much as it affects the administration of justice, will be laid before you. It is a charge prefered against no less than seven of the company's military officers, for having unitedly assaulted, and grossly abused, a single, unarmed, undefended European, and a native by whom he was attended. It is charged that after they had satiated their own vengeance, they hunted their dogs at these unfortunate men, and that their flesh is actually lacerated and torn by their bites.

The provocation they gave, was that of having been employed by the sheriff, to execute a writ which issued out of this court, at the suit of a man with whom one of these assailants had contracted a debt which it seems he was determined never to pay. This was the provocation—I do not wish to speak with asperity of what followed, and it is not easy to speak of it otherwise, if the informations are to be believed. They are, I understand, young men, and I heartily wish that the judgment of their riper years may disapprove of such acts of their youth.

If such proceedings were to be tolerated, the king's charter would be worse than a dead letter, and his judges worse than contemptible. We should sit here under its authority to issue process for the sole purpose of subjecting those whose duty it is to execute it, to danger and molestation.

Whenever, therefore, such offences appear, the court will lay its hands on the offender, and not let go the hold, until he shall have made atonement at this bar, or under the sentence which he will there receive.

If this offence cannot be justified or excused, I wish, for the sake of a most honourable profession, that the offenders may be able to qualify it with ever so little of the spirit of manhood, or at least to strip it of those circumstances of cruelty which seem attached to it at present.

Before we separate, gentlemen, I must take leave to congratulate you on the restoration of peace and tranquillity among ourselves. The time which you have passed, must have been extremely afflicting to many of you. The tenderest ties of friendship must have been strained into torture; or the sense of feeling, deadened by terror and dismay.

If those misguided men, who inflicted such pain upon all who were connected with them, forgot the obligations which bound them to their duty; they might, I think, have been restrained from such conduct by compassion for their friends and relations. How many have been, and how many more might have been made miserable in consequence of this disorder? From such a centre, sorrow is often shed upon a vast circumference—But this, like all other vices, excludes tenderness from its views, and is founded upon all selfishness alone; whilst our social duties are built upon a broad foundation. Their base is co-extensive with society, and their duration eternal.

It is not for me, upon this occasion at least, to dilate upon the law of treason, or to speculate upon what might have been the consequence to those gentlemen, if they had been brought here for their trial. So much I will say. I know of no argument that can vindicate revolt. I know of no law that can justify treason, and I am confident I shall have the perfect concurrence of you all, when I state that the Englishman who rebels against the lawful authorities of a British governmeut, must be the worst of subjects to the best of kings.

But this melancholy business has, thank God, terminated, and we must all rejoice that it has ended with so little bloodshed. It is but a secondary consideration that such crimes should be punished without rigour. The first is that no man shall violate the law. To the end of our freedom, we are all its servant—and whosover shall dare to make an attempt upon its supremacy must be defeated. Whoever presumes to set himself above the law will be discomfited in the end.

No man with qualities for a great enterprize would undertake this. He must begin by casting his philanthropy aside, and he cannot move until after he shall have broken those bonds by which the moral world is held together; he may have courage, but he must want that which ennobles courage—humanity. He may have temerity to undertake; but must want sense to calculate the danger of the undertaking; he may be desperate, but he must be foolish; he may act from entire fatuity, but never from a particle of wisdom. He may struggle like a peevish child with his master, but will surely be subdued and corrected.

I feel, gentlemen, that I have trespassed too long upon your time, and your patience. I have now only to request, that you may retire to your own chamber, and proceed upon the business which may be brought before you, with such dispatch as shall be consistent with due investigation.

The following prisoners were tried during the sessions:

Michael Sweeney, and John Crump, were indicted for assaulting one Aumood on the king's highway, and stealing from him sundry coins against his will—they were both acquitted.

James Courtney, a private in the royals, was found guilty of the wilful murder of James Doyle, a private of the same regiment, at Masulipatam, when sentence was passed upon him, and he was executed on Thursday morning.

July 27th.—The sudden retreat and disappearance of Ameer Cawn, and the mysterious conduct that followed in March and April last, continued till lately without explanation. It is said, in recent Persian Ackbas, that his proceedings at that time were the result of previous negotiation with the principal Begum of Holkar's court. Meer Cawn, finding his designs on the Nagpore rajah entirely defeated, his own army straitened for provisions, and endangered in its retreat, by the approach of the armies under colonel Close and lieutenant-colonel Martindell, suddenly broke up his encampment and disappeared. For several days it was unknown whither he had gone, or what route he had pursued. It has been since ascertained, that he advanced, with all expedition, towards Holkar's camp, and took up a position at about two coss distant, under such appearances as indicated nothing less than an immediate attack, and dispositions were made accordingly by Holkar's army, to give him a proper reception. The prime minister and the commandant of artillery received orders from the Begum to make every preparation to repel the enemy, who continued, during two days, in the same position that he occupied on his arrival. The attack was hourly expected, when, at the expiration of the second day, the Begum ordered the prime minister and commandant of artillery to be arrested and confined. This unexpected order was carried into instant execution, and those two confidential officers were loaded with chains and closely confined.

On the following day, it was generally known, that the Begum and Ameer Cawn had come to terms, and that the arrest of the two principal officers had been ordered, to prevent their making any attempt to set aside the negotiation that had been concluded; and, in this way, the new arrangement was brought about, without bloodshed or opposition. Holkar's troops were greatly in arrear at that time, and Ameer Cawn proposed that they should be immediately paid up, a proposition which gained him favour with the army. On the day following, he made a visit of ceremony to the Begum, and was conducted into Holkar's apartment, where he remained upwards of an hour, affecting to confer with the Mahratta chieftain, who had been, for several months, in a state of total imbecility. Nevertheless, Ameer Cawn went through the ceremony of presenting a khelaut to Holkar, and then took his leave. The Cawn was now publicly invested with the chief management of the affairs of state; and his authority acknowledged by the court and army. His first measure was to detach ten or twelve battalions to enforce the collection of the revenues which had fallen heavily in arrear, during the indisposition of Holkar.

The rajahs of Joudpore and Jaypore are now at variance on a point not likely to admit of a quick or amicable adjustment. This is a contigency too favourable to the views of Ameer Cawn, to be overlooked, and he is accordingly pursuing such measures as may best enable him to profit by their dissensions.

July 28.—On Tuesday last, Wm. chmidt, alias Wm. Smith, of his majesty's 89th regiment, was found guilty of the wilful murder of John Flynn, a private of the same regiment, on Saturday last, on the parade of Fort St. George, when sentence of death was passed upon him, and he was executed on Wednesday morning.

By the confession of the prisoner, it appeared that his intention was to have shot serjeant Forrester, who was wounded in the body, and is still lingering. A private was also wounded by the same shot, which went through the head of John Flynn, and the only provocation appeared to be, that the prisoner was ordered into confinement by the captain of his company, on account of deficiency in his regimental appointments, and that serjeant Forrester had carried the orders into effect.

MADRAS

Occurrences for August.

August 4th.---Public Department.---The honourable the governor in council is pleased to direct the publi-

cation of the two following letters from captain Robert Hay, commanding the honourable company's ship Astell, detailing the particulars of a severe and well-contested action, which took place on the 3d ultimo, in the Mozambique channel, between the Ceylon, Astell and Windham, Indiamen, against two heavy French frigates and a corvette: the circumstances of which are highly honourable to the conduct of captain Hay, the officers and ship's company; to that of major Foster, the officers and men of the detachment of his majesty's 24th regiment, and of the cadets on board the honourable company's ship Astell.

To Alexander Falconar, Esq.

SIR,

For the information of his excellency the governor in council, I beg leave to acquaint you with the arrival of the honourable company's ship Astell, under my command, in these roads, this day, at 11 o'clock, P. M.

I have also the honour to transmit you the copy of a letter to William Ramsay, Esq. giving an account of an action we had with two French frigates and a corvette, in which the Ceylon was captured, and I fear the Windham also.

I regret much, that the nature of my wound precludes the possibility of paying my personal respects to his excellency the governor; but Mr. Morgan, my second officer, who has the charge of this, is well qualified to give every information which his excellency the governor may want.

Enclosed is a list of the ship's company and passengers.

And I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,
(Signed) R. HAY.

Honourable company's ship Astell,
Madras roads, 1st August, 1810.

To William Ramsay, Esq.

SIR,

I beg leave to acquaint you, for the information of the honourable court, that the Astell sailed from Simon's bay, early on the morning of the 12th of June, in company with the honourable company's ships Ceylon, Windham, William Pitt, and extra ship Euphrates; the weather was extremely thick, and towards noon blowing fresh from the N. N. W.

The court, long ere this can be received, must have been apprized of the circumstances of the Euphrates having struck upon a shoal, which led to the separation of that ship, along with the William Pitt, from the Ceylon, Windham and Astell, the three latter ships having beat till the evening of the 15th, at which time, the Cape of Good Hope bore N. E. by N. and a N. W. gale setting in, captain Meriton, the senior officer, made the signal to bear up and steer S. by E.

At dawn of day, on the morning of the 2d of July, the island of Johannah in sight, bearing E. half N. saw three strange sails in the N. N. E. close hauled on the larboard tack, the wind rather fresh from the S. S. E. immediately cleared ship for action, and we soon discerned them to be two heavy frigates and a corvette.

At 8, 20 A. M. the Ceylon having made the private signal, and it not being answered, made the signal that the strange ships were enemies, and to prepare for battle.

At 9, 50 A. M. one of the frigates having fetched our wake, tacked, we standing in our course, under easy sail.

At 12, 10 P. M. the Ceylon made the signal to form the line abreast, the corvette within about a mile of us, on our larboard quarter.

At 2, 10 P. M. the largest frigate being about half a mile from us, on our starboard quarter, (the other frigates five or six miles distant on our lee beam, and the Ceylon and Windham rather a head of us, and to windward,) fired a shot at us, and hoisted French colours, when the action commenced on both sides; continued the action with the frigate on our weather beam occasionally, and the corvette on our larboard quarter for three hours; the Ceylon, during that time chiefly on our weather bow, keeping up a spirited and well-directed fire, and the Windham occasionally, as she could get her guns to bear.

At 3, 40 P. M. I received a wound, which obliged me to be carried off the deck; but I have the gratifying pleasure to say, that event proved of no moment; for the ship was fought for three hours afterwards with little intermission, by Mr. Hawkey, aided by the spirited exertions of the other officers, in the most gallant manner.

At 5, 45, the frigate that had been to leeward, brought us to close action, chiefly firing round and grape, which did great execution.

At 7, P. M. seeing the Ceylon bear up under the frigate's stern, lately come into action, and not firing a gun, luffed up under her lee, and asked what they proposed doing, when they answered, they had struck, and that ever to be lamented, excellent officer captain Meriton, together with his chief officer, were amongst the slain.

The disparity of force being now so great, not knowing the situation of the Windham, she being a mile and a half astern, the main-mast and foremast, and top-masts completely ruined, the rigging and sails cut to pieces, our people much exhausted from so long and arduous a conflict, it being quite dark, and the ship making three feet water per hour, put our helm up, and stood to the westward under easy sail, the wind from the eastward, received the fire of the frigate which came last into action, and carrying a commodore's pendant, as we passed, and returned it as long as we were within shot; the other frigate at this time had lost her main and mizen top-masts.

Immediately after, perceived two of the enemy in chase, and coming up very fast, threw the company's large packets overboard; we stood on, during the night, under easy sail, and at day-light saw nothing of them, and this day anchored in Madras roads.

Having thus detailed the particulars of this unfortunate business, I now beg leave to perform, as far as I am able, by far the most pleasing part of my duty, which is to do justice to those who so ably supported me on this occasion, but any language of mine, must give a very faint idea of their merits.

Nothing could exceed the steady and gallant conduct of my officers, nor is it possible to say too much in praise of the petty officers and ship's company, who to a man, excited my admiration by their orderly and intrepid conduct, and anxiety to board, which at one period of the action we had nearly accomplished.

To major Foster, the commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, and privates of his majesty's 24th regiment, my best thanks are due, whose determined bravery and orderly conduct, at their different quarters, nothing could exceed: indeed, the cordiality which has subsisted between major Foster and myself has ensured me his warm and zealous support upon all occasions.

Nor ought I to omit the spirited behaviour of the gentlemen cadets. Mr. Hawkey derived great assistance from Mr. Crichton, chief officer of the honourable company's ship building at Penang, whose exertions during the action, and after it, merit every encomium I can possibly bestow.

I am happy to say the wounded are doing remarkably well under the professional skill, humane and unremitting attention of Mr. Aikin, surgeon, who has derived great assistance from Mr. Johnson, of his Majesty's 24th regiment, and Mr. Mickle, assistant surgeon of the Bengal establishment.

Annexed is a list of the killed and wounded. SIR,

Your most obedient,

Humble servant,

(Signed) R. HAY.

Honourable company's ship Astell, August 1, 1810, Madras roads.

List of the killed and wounded on board the honourable company's ship Astell, in the action of the 3d of July, 1810.

SEAMEN KILLED.—Robert Eagle, Thomas Duckin, Erick Manson, Andrew Peters.

WOUNDED.—Captain Robert Hay, severely.—Mr. Martin, 5th officer, slightly.—George Criffy, Armourer, severely.—O. Angerson, do.—William Daun, do.—Laurence Hanson, do.—Robert Stewart, do.—William Robertson, do.—Antonio Goli-

varez, do.—John Davies, do.—Carim, a lascar, severely.

GENTLEMEN CADETS WOUNDED.—Mr. Cartwright, slightly.—Mr. Holroyd, do.—Mr. Easson, do.—Mr. Laurie, do.—Mr. Coventry, do.

SOLDIERS KILLED.—James Merrick, William Mortan, Edward Murray, John Resear.

SOLDIERS WOUNDED.—James Conway, serjeant, slightly.—John Davies, corporal, do.—William Bruly, severely.—William Carter, do.—James Ashby, do.—Edward Driver, do.—John Cole, do.—Thomas Jackson, do.—William Leinman, do.—Richard Pyke, do.—George Pitcher, do.—James Law, do.—Edward Daffie, slightly.—John Eyton, do.—Thomas Rasp, do.—John Teal, do.—John Robertson, do.—William Alfred, do.—William Wareham, do.—William Jones, do.

(Signed) R. HAY.

Ship's company killed, 4.—Do. do. do. wounded, 11.—Lascar, wounded, 1.—Gentlemen Cadets wounded, 5.—Soldiers killed, 4.—Do. wounded, 20.—Total, 45.

Published by order of the honourable the governor in council.

A. FALCONAR,
Chief Sec. to govt.

Fort St. George, 3d August, 1810.

AUGUST 13th.—Arrived in the roads this morning, the government brig Minto, captain Collingwood, with dispatches under the charge of lieutenant-colonel Campbell, of his majesty's 33d regiment.

She brings the pleasing intelligence of the surrender of the island of Bourbon, to his Britannic majesty's squadron under the command of commodore Rowley, and his majesty's and the honourable company's troops under the command of lieutenant - colonel Keating, of his majesty's 56th regiment, on the 8th of last month.

The loss sustained on our part is six officers wounded, one killed, and about 30 rank and file, killed and wounded.

G. O. by government.

Robert Townsend Farquhar, esq. having been appointed by the governor-general in council to be governor of the island of Bourbon and its dependencies, and to exercise the powers vested in the several governments in India, by the act of the 33d of his present majesty, has this day taken the prescribed oaths, and assumed the functions of government.

Captain A. Barry having been appointed by the right honourable the governor-general in council to be chief secretary to the government at Bourbon, his appointment is hereby notified.

Captain Barry is appointed town major of St. Denis.

Captain Carrol, of his majesty's 69th regiment, and lieutenant Poggenpoble, of the Madras artillery, are appointed aid-de-camps to the governor.

Lieutenant Maclean, of his majesty's 86th regiment, to be fort adjutant of St. Denis.

MADRAS

Occurrences for September.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

Copy of a paragraph which will be inserted in the next general letter to Fort St. George.

"We have resolved that a new commission be issued for the government of your presidency, and that the following persons be appointed members of the said government, viz.

Sir George Hilaro Barlow, B. K. B. governor.

Lieutenant-general Sir S. Achmuty commander-in-chief, second in council.

Thomas Oakes, Esq. third, and

James H. Casamaijor, Esq. fourth in council.

"We desire that Mr. Petrie, may be appointed senior member of the board of revenue."

East India House, London, 11th April, 1810.

PUBLIC DEPARTMENT.

To W. Petrie, Esq.

SIR,

The honourable the court of directors having resolved on a new constitution of the members of this government, and having directed that you should be appointed senior member, under council, of the board of revenue, I am directed by the honourable the governor in council to transmit to your information a copy of the commands of the honourable the court on the occasion, and to acquaint you, in conformity with their orders, the

governor in council has been pleased to appoint you to be senior member, under council, of the board of revenue. I have the honour to be,

(Signed) A. FALCONAR,
Secretary.

Fort St. George, Sept. 1st, 1810.

To Alexander Falconar, Esq. Chief Secretary to Government.

SIR,

I have just now had the honour to receive your letter of this day's date, transmitting, for my information, by the order of the honourable the president in council, the copy of a paragraph from the honourable the court of directors, which " is intended to be inserted in the next general letter to Fort St. George," and on this intended paragraph, it appears, the honourable the president in council has immediately acted, by removing me from my situation in council, by appointing me to be senior member, under council, of the revenue board.

In the intended paragraph of the honourable court, it is clearly and distinctly expressed, that I was not to be included in the new commission of government, which is to be issued for the government of this presidency, and that the honourable court has been graciously pleased to appoint me to the first situation under council, at the revenue board; but with all due submission to the resolution of government, I hope I may be allowed respectfully to state, that this resolution does not appear to me to be in conformity to the order of the honourable court, as you have expressed in your letter; because the late communication only announces an intention, but conveys no order for carrying it into immediate effect; that such communication of an intention cannot be construed into the nature of an order, and does not in the common construction of language, impose any obligation until the receipt of the order which is announced, and which can only then operate to the accomplishment of the objects, the court had in view. I may further hope to be permitted to remark, that this anticipation of an intention may be productive of public inconvenience, or embarrassment, should circumstances intervene to produce a change in the resolution of the honourable court, between the notification of the intention, and the issuing of the order. I trust I am not guilty of presumption, in supposing that if the honourable court had intended that my removal from council should take place, on the receipt of the proposed paragraph, their orders to that effect would have been clearly, and unequivocally conveyed, having no doubt, or ambiguity in their construction.

It is not unreasonable to infer, that the object of this official communication of an intention was not only to inform the government of the proposed charge in its members, but also from an humane, and liberal consideration for the situation of an individual, who might be greatly embarrassed and distressed by a precipitate and unprepared degradation from the high station to which they had elevated him, a station he has held for eleven years, in which period he has been three times appointed to the eventual succession of the government; once in the actual enjoyment of that high rank and at present in the possession of a commission of government, as successor to the present honourable president. Such a transition from my late elevated rank, to the place I now hold in the service, is certainly not a common occurrence in the fortunes of an individual. Such an humiliating degradation in the eyes of the European and native community, has till now, I believe, not fallen to the lot of any public servant in India, but I cannot permit myself to suppose that my honourable employers, from whom I have received so many distinguished and honourable marks of confidence, from whose bounty I have experienced so many favours, could intend that the painful severity of the late orders should fall upon me, without some previous intimation of their intention. These effects, which it is probable the communication of the proposed paragraphs was humanely

intended to avert, I have felt and continue to feel in their full force.

It is incumbent on every man to bear the vicissitudes of life with firmness and resignation; but there are certain feelings inseparable from humanity which are entitled to usually have consideration under the most rigorous dispensations of justice.

Having thus taken the liberty of representing to the honourable the president in council, the observations which have most forcibly struck me on this unusual occurrence, with that respect which I owe to his superior authority, I request of you to communicate at the same time my acknowments to the honourable the court of directors for the many obligations conferred upon me, and to signify my acceptance of the appointment to which that honourable body has thought proper to nominate me.

I have the honour to be,

(Signed) W. Petrie.

Sept. 1st, 1810.

Sept. 4th.—On Friday last salutes were fired from the garrison of Fort St George, on Mr. Oakes and Mr. Casamaijor taking their seats as third and fourth members of council.

General orders, Sept. 6th, 1810.

Colonel Close is permitted to proceed to Europe on furlough.

The important services rendered by colonel Close in the high and confidential situations which he has held under the government of this presidency, have so frequently received the testimony of public approbation, that it would be superfluous to recapitulate them: the governor in council however cannot allow that officer to depart, without again expressing the high sense which this government must ever entertain of services so eminent and distinguished; which have contributed so essentially to the prosperity of the British interests in the Decan, and which so justly entitle him to the strongest expressions of public gratitude and applause.

Fort St. George, Sept. 20th, 1810.

Sir Harford Jones, bart. having notified to the honourable the governor in council that his royal highness the prince of Persia had been pleased to confer medals of the order of the sun on the Jemidars Seyed Hussain and Hussainee Beg of the escort attached to the mission to the court of Taheran in token of his royal highness's approbation of the good conduct of those officers; the governor in council has great satisfaction in recognizing this distinguished testimony of the approved services of the officers in question, and in permitting them to wear these honourable marks of their merit.

By order of the honourable the governor in council.

(Signed) A. Falconar,
Chief secretary to government.

General orders.

Sept. 27.—His excellency lieutenant-gen. Sir St. Achmuty having been appointed by his majesty and the honourable court of directors to the command of his majesty's and the honourable company's forces serving under the presidency of Fort St. George, the honourable the governor in council hereby notifies the arrival of his excellency at this presidency, and that he has this day taken the oaths and his seat as a member of the council of Fort St. George.

By order of the honourable the governor in council.

(Signed) J. H. Peile,
Sec. to govt.

The honourable the governor in council is pleased to direct, that the commission of government received this day, by the honourable company's extra ship Diana, be published for the general information of the army serving under this presidency, and the said commission is now published accordingly.

"The united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies;

"To all to whom these presents shall come send greeting. Know ye, that we the said united company, reposing especial trust and confidence in the fidelity, prudence, justice, and circumspection of Sir George Hilaro Barlow, baronet, knight of the most honourable order of the Bath, have nominated, made, constituted and appointed, and

by these presents do nominate, make, constitute, and appoint, the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow to be president and governor of, and for all our affairs on the coasts of Coromandel and Orixa, and of all the territories thereunto belonging, and of all and singular the forts, factories, and settlements, territories, countries, and jurisdictions thereof, and to execute all and every the powers and authorities thereunto appertaining by order and direction of our court of directors for the time being, and of such other persons, as in, and by an act of parliament made in the thirty-third year for the reign of his present majesty, entitled "an act for continuing in the East India company for a further term, the possession of the British territories in India, together with their exclusive trade, under certain limitations, for establishing further regulations for the government of the said territories, and the better administration of justice within the same; appropriating to certain uses the revenues and profits of the said company, and for making provision for the good order, and government of the towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, are empowered to give any orders to our servants in India in certain cases in the said act mentioned," to hold and to take the said office, unto and upon him, the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow, from the arrival of this our commission at Fort St. George, and to continue in the exercise of the said office during the pleasure of us, and of our court of directors, and until the contrary thereof shall be signified under our seal, or under the hands of thirteen, or more, of the said court of directors, for the time being; but subject, nevertheless, to such other removal and recal as in the said act of parliament is mentioned. And, to the end that the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow may be better enabled to order and manage all the affairs of us the said company, we do by these presents constitute and ordain lieutenant-general Sir Samuel Achmuty, knight, the commander-in-chief of the said United company's military forces on the coast of Coromandel, together with Thomas Oakes, esquire, and James Henry Casamaijor, esquire, to be councellors of the said presidency or settlement, for governing and managing all the said company's affairs upon the coasts of Coromandel and Orixa, and governing the said Fort St. George and city of Madraspatnam and all other our forts, factories, and settlements within any of the said territories, with such right of succession to the said Thomas Oakes, esquire, to the said office of president on the vacancy thereof, in any manner by the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow, as in that case he the said Thomas Oakes, esq. would be entitled to by law or by the appointment of our court of directors, and we do hereby give and grant unto our said president and governor, Sir George Hilaro Barlow, and to our council aforenamed, or to the major part of them, (the whole council being duly summoned,) and to the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow alone, or in case the said Thomas Oakes, esq. should succeed to the said office of president, then to the said Thomas Oakes, esq. alone, in certain cases, and under certain ciscumstances, mentioned in the said act passed in the thirty-third year of the reign of his present majesty, full power and authority, from time to time, to rule and govern all and every our factories and servants under the said presidency, and all the soldiers and inhabitants of our said Fort St. George and city of Madraspatnam and elsewhere, within the places aforesaid, to administer lawful oaths as occasion shall require, and to do and perform all such other acts and things, and to use and exercise all such other powers and authorities as the said president and governor, and his council, in their several respective places, where the said united company have, or shall have, factories, or any places of trade, are authorized to do, subject, nevertheless, to the superintending and controuling power of the governor-general in council of Fort-William in Bengal, in such cases wherein they are authorized to have a superintending and controuling power in and

by any act or acts of parliament now in force, and also subject and according to such instructions and directions as he, the said Sir George Hilaro Barlow, our president, and governor and council aforesaid, shall, from time to time receive under the hands of thirteen or more of the court of directors of the said united company for the time being, and from such other persons as by the said act of the thirty-third year of his present majesty's reign, are empowered to give orders to the said united company's servants in India in certain cases therein mentioned, provided that when our commander-in-chief of the military forces in the East Indies shall happen to be present at the said settlement of Fort St. George, he shall be one of the said counsellors, instead of our commander-in-chief of all military forces on the coast of Coromandel, who during that time shall have only a at and right of deliberation, but no ice in the said council, and subject o to such temporary and partial susension, and in such manner as in the d act of the thirty-third year of the ign of his present majesty is menoned when our governor-general of ort-William in Bengal, for the time eing, shall find it expedient to visit he said presidency of Fort St. George, r any province or place thereto beonging. And we, the said united ompany do hereby order and require ll our factors, servants, officers, and oldiers, within the limits of the said residency, and all the people and inabitants of our said Fort St. George, nd city of Madraspatnam, and all ther our forts, places and colonies, ithin the said presidency, to conform, ibmit and yield due obedience to t e id Sir George Hilaro Barlow, our esident and governor, and his council ccordingly; and we do hereby revoke, epeal, annul, and make void every rmer commission or commissions ven and granted by us, and all other ppointments, whereby any other pern or persons was and were, or shall e constituted and ordained, or hath or ave, or shall become president and overnor of the council of Fort St. eorge aforesaid, such revocation to take place from the time of the arrival of these presents, at the presidency of Fort St. George aforesaid. In witness whereof we, the said united company, have caused our common seal to be affixed to these presents, the tenth day of April, in the fiftieth year of the reign of his most excellent majesty, George the Third, by the grace of God, of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, king, defender of the faith and so forth, and in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and ten.

"Signed by order of the court of directors of the said united company,

(Signed) "W. Ramsay, Sec."

Occurrences for September.

Madras, Sept. 29, 1810.

Memorandum of Salvage, &c. awarded by decision of the vice-admiralty court, of yesterday's date, upon the treasure saved from the Nancy Grab, and brought to Madras by the Rattlesnake.

	Star Pagodas.
To capt. Bremer of the Rattlesnake - - - -	1,000
To lieut. Jeffries, of ditto, in charge of the boats,	1,000
To two officers of the Lord Castlereagh, and one midshipman of the Rattlesnake, employed in the boats, 200 pagodas each, - - - -	600
To the men employed in two boats of the Castlereagh, and one boat of the Rattlesnake, pagodas 100 each, estimating their number at 40, the amount to be divided equally among them, whether more or less, - - - - -	4,000
To Mr. Bromley, for his trouble in taking a temporary charge of the treasure, after its arrival at Madras, ½ per cent. on its amount, estimated at 2,30,000 pagodas, - -	1,150
Star Pagodas,	7,750

The costs on both sides to be paid by the proprietors of the treasure.

Sept. 29.—The troops under orders for foreign service, having all embarked on Saturday last, the transports under convoy of the Cornwallis, captain Caulfield, and Phæton, captain Fleetwood Pellew, sailed in the course of the afternoon for their destination.

Major-general Warde, commanding the expedition, and major Johnson, deputy quarter-master-general, proceeded on the Cornwallis.

Lieutenant-colonel Sir William Nicholson, deputy adjutant-general to the forces, proceeded on his majesty's ship Clorinde, captain Briggs.

His majesty's 12th and 59th regiments were among the troops embarked from this presidency for foreign service. The united forces of the three presidencies on the junction, are to be commanded by lieutenant-general the honourable John Abercrombie, major-general Warde being second in command.

His excellency rear-admiral Drury embarked on Saturday evening on board his majesty's ship Russel, captain Hoare, and on Sunday morning the whole squadron got under weigh.

Sep. 30th.—G. O. by his excellency Sir Samuel Achmuty.

His excellency the commander-in-chief in India, having been pleased, with the sanction of government, to direct lieutenant-general Sir Samuel Achmuty to take on himself the command of the Madras army, the lieut.-general feels assured, that he shall receive from every rank under his orders the most cordial co-operation and assistance. The army must be sensible, that the brilliant exploits which have so essentially contributed to the present flourishing situation of the empire in India, cannot be attributed to their gallantry alone, but was the natural result of a ready subordination, of a strict discipline, and a prompt and cordial obedience to government, and the officers entrusted by it with authority. By these military virtues it has been acquired, and by these alone it can be preserved.

With these impressions it becomes the duty of the lieutenant-general to require, that every heart and every hand should join to uphold the solid fabric of our greatness; and that every one in his station, should labour with zeal, to support the glory of our arms, and the interests of our country.

In requiring from the troops under his orders, the habits and principles of soldiers, the lieutenant-general is aware, that from him must be expected every attention to their interests, to their feelings, and to their comforts. The native troops in particular with whom he has long served, and whose fidelity to the state, obedience to their officers, and gallantry in the field, are well known and appreciated by him, may depend on his constant protection.

Sept. 30th.—A letter from the honourable the court of directors to his highness Azeem ul Dowlah, Nabob of Arcot, was delivered on Thursday morning at Chepauk palace with the accustomed formalities.

The troops in garrison, with a detachment of artillery and 4 six-pounders, paraded in the garden of his highness—The letter was carried on an elephant, and on being delivered to his highness—royal salutes were fired by the artillery, the fort, and Chepauk palace.

Occurrences for October.

The honourable Sir Francis Macnaughten, knight, this day took his seat and oaths of office as deputy commissary of the vice-admiralty court.

At twelve o'clock the court having been opened by proclamation, the registrar in the presence of the advocates, proctors, and officers of the court, read aloud the deputation signed by the honourable the commissary Sir Thomas Andrew Strange, knight.

The registrar then administered the oaths of office, allegiance, and supremacy to the honourable the deputy commissary, who being duly sworn, proceeded to the business before the court.

October, 13.—His excellency lieutenant-general Sir Samuel Achmuty, commander-in-chief, held a levee at

his house in the fort, on Wednesday morning, which was numerously attended by the officers at the presidency, and the principal inhabitants at Madras.

Oct. 20.—This morning arrived his majesty's ship Caroline, captain Cole, from the eastward, with the pleasing intelligence of the *capture of Banda.*

The Caroline, captain Cole, the Piedmontaise, captain Foote, and Baracouta sloop, captain Kenah, arrived off Banda in the afternoon of the 8th of August, when captain Cole, in order to completely surprise the enemy, determined on a night attack; the approach of the squadron, it appears, had not escaped the notice of the Dutch.

Four hundred officers and men had been selected by captain Cole for service in the boats, under his own immediate command.

Not more, however, than 200 men, consisting of seamen, marines, and the Madras European regiment, could be collected, as the night was dark and squally, but nothing could deter our brave defenders from an immediate attack.

This small force, with the greatest bravery, perseverance, and silence, proceeded to the point of debarkation.—A dark cloud with heavy rain covered the landing within one hundred yards of a battery of 18 guns, which, by the gallantry of captain Kenah and lieutenant Carew, who were ordered to the attack, was taken in the rear, and an officer and his guard made prisoners, without our men having fired a single musket.—The enemy were at their guns with matches lighted.

Having procured a native guide, the party made a most rapid movement round the town to attack the castle of Belgica, as the near approach of daylight, and the sound of the bugle by the enemy, evinced their having taken the alarm, and rendered it of the utmost importance for captain Cole to gain immediate possession of the castle, which commanded the Fort of Nassau and the sea defences. In about twenty minutes the scaling ladders were placed against the walls—The enemy's sentries now began to fire, but without effect, as nothing could withstand the valor and gallantry of our troops. After the outworks were carried, the ladders were drawn up and placed for the attack of the inner works, under a sharp fire from the garrison—which lasted for about ten or fifteen minutes, three guns were likewise discharged, but with no better success, when the enemy fled in all directions, leaving the colonel commandant and ten others dead, and two officers and about thirty prisoners.

The enemy were in the most complete state of preparation, and every gun on Belgica, was found loaded with the most destructive kind of small shot, and the ramparts lined with hand-grenades, for the purpose of resisting an attack of the nature of that which took place; but the deep silence which was preserved, until the fire was opened, and the rapidity of the escalade, produced such a panic amongst the enemy, that numbers threw themselves over the outer-work to escape the destruction that awaited them. The colonel-commandant had the character of a good soldier, and fell using his sword against the first that approached him.

The day was now dawning on the British flag, when captain Cole, discovered the fort of Nassau and the sea-defences below him, with the enemy at their guns, and at their different posts—captain Kenah was immediately dispatched with a flag of truce, requiring the surrender of Nassau and a promise of protection to private property.

At sun-rise the enemy opened a fire on the Caroline, which was then approaching the harbour, followed by the Piedmontaise and Baracouta— a detachment being selected to secure Belgica, the remainder of the troops with the ladders, &c. were about to proceed to the storm of Nassau, when captain Kenah returned with a verbal submission of the governor, the Dutch flag however continued flying—A second flag, stating the determination of captain Cole immediately to storm Nas-

sau, and a shot from Belgica, which completely commands all the principal defences, produced an immediate submission, and possession was taken of the two forts and several batteries, containing one hundred and twenty pieces of cannon, and defended by nearly seven hundred disciplined troops and the militia.

The storming party was led by captain Kenah. — Captain Foote in the most seaman-like manner conducted the ships to their anchorage against the unfavourable circumstances of having but few hands left on board, and a squally and tempestuous night.

Lieutenant Gilmore, an experienced and valuable officer, had the command of the Caroline after captain Cole debarked, and is the bearer of the dispatches for his excellency admiral Drury.

The enemy had advanced a strong corps towards the place where admiral Rainier had formerly landed—this was precisely what captain Cole had anticipated, and was the principal cause of his making the attack at the point he did—and at the hour and manner in which it took place.

To Christopher Cole, Esq. captain of H. M.'s ship Caroline, senior officer commanding the force at Banda Neira and its dependencies.

Sir,—In addressing you upon the capture of Banda Neira and its dependencies, which secures to the British flag a conquest of great value, the officers of the honourable company's troops engaged in that enterprize have to congratulate you and themselves upon the successful issue under every disadvantage of wind and weather, upon a hostile shore lined with numerous batteries, the enemy aware of and prepared for an attack, so wisely planned and ably carried into execution under your personal direction.

The confidence you inspired all with on the approach to assault Belgica, we are convinced contributed in a great measure to the success of the escalade; your bravery and gallant conduct was so conspicuous on that occasion, that it must secure you the esteem and admiration of all who are acquainted, as we are, with the circumstances attending the reduction of that strong and important citadel.

As a memorial of the high sense we entertain of the great service performed by you on this occasion, and as a mark of our personal esteem and respect, we request you will do us the honour to accept of a sword, of the value of one hundred guineas.

We further beg leave to assure you, that our warmest wishes for your future success and happiness, will always attend you in whatever situation it may please providence to fix your lot.

(Signed) G. L. Nixon, captain,—G. Alexander, surgeon,—C. W. Yeats, lieutenant artillery, W. H. Davenant, lieutenant, M. E. regiment, B. Hooper, ditto ditto, J. Stuart, ditto ditto, P. Brown, ditto ditto, W. J. Daker, ditto ditto, R. Allen, ensign 21st Native infantry.

(A true copy.)

G. L. Nixon.

His Majesty's Ship Caroline, Banda Harbour, August 23, 1810.

Sir,

I accept with heartfelt satisfaction, the memorial offered to me by the officers of the honourable company's troops, upon the fortunate issue of our united exertions for the capture of Banda.

Nothing but the firmest reliance on the personal exertions of every individual on shore, and afloat, could have given me confidence for the attempt; and next to my gratitude to providence for the many unlooked for circumstances which operated in our favour, I shall remember the general zeal which actuated the whole, and in particular the cordial co-operation, and good-will of you, and the officers under your command.

I am, Sir,

With great esteem,

Your's very obediently,

Christopher Cole.

(A true Copy.) G. L. Nixon.

To Captain Nixon, and the officers under his orders.

Oct. 28.—A most alarming robbery, from the number engaged, and the cool arranged manner in which the thieves proceeded, took place at the village of Nungembauk, not far distant from Mr. Maitland's house, on the morning of the 25th instant, between twelve and one o'clock, by a body of about thirty natives armed with hatchets, pikes, like those used by palankeen boys, and some with firelocks and swords. The house of Kistnah Modeliar, butler to the late Dr. Anderson, has been completely gutted of every thing valuable. About nine men came over the top of his tiled house into the square compound below: he was asleep at the time, but was soon awakened by the noise in breaking open with their hatchets the doors of his small rooms: they came prepared with Massalgy cloths, more than six, which they lighted in the house. On Kistna imploring them not to plunder him, as he had a great family to maintain, they said they wanted something from him, and finding them determined to plunder every thing, he got outside to give the alarm, but on his making a noise, the party who remained outside to overawe, knocked him down, brought him into his house and held him, till every thing of consequence was carried off, when they tauntingly asked him leave to depart. They spoke the Tamul language, had no turbans, and each had a hatchet hanging by his side, of an angular shape, like those brought from England. A young boy had a gold bangle round his wrist; they were about chopping off his arm for it, when the boy implored them to desist, and he would give it to them, which he did. Another boy outside they were for throwing into a tank, but he was saved by one of the party; they seemed hardened villains, and remained in the house about an hour, busily employed breaking and searching for what they appeared to know was to be found, and have carried off stone jewels, and gold and silver ornaments valued at about 5000 Pagodas; such as are used by Hindoo men and women. Many of these jewels and ornaments were given in pledge to Kistnah for money lent, and can be identified by the parties to whom they belong; it is to be hoped that some of them may lead to the detection of as formidable a set of thieves as have yet made their appearance on Choultry plain. The neighbours were prevented giving any assance, their outer doors were kept fast shut by the thieves, and they threatened to murder any who stirred out. Kistnah was severely wounded in the head, and about ten other persons have received wounds.

Occurrences for November.

November 2d.—The acting resident at Poonah having announced to the honourable the governor in council, the birth of a son and heir to his highnessthe Peishwah, the governor in council has been pleased to direct, that a royal salute be fired from the ramparts of Fort St. George, in honour of the event.

Nov. 10th.—The following copy of a letter from lieutenant-colonel Hastings Fraser, commanding the first brigade, on the late successful attack on Bourbon, addressed to the commanding officer of the forces, presents a detailed account of that spirited and brilliant achievement.

St. Denis, 9th July, 1810.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward to you a detailed account of the operations of the detachment of the first brigade, from the period of our separation from the rest of the force on the evening of the 6th instant, till your arrival at the post we occupied before St. Denis, at 5 o'clock P. M. on the 8th instant.

His majesty's 86th regiment, having been removed from the Minerva transport, on board his majesty's ship Sirius, and being joined by the grenadier company and the sepoys of the 6th native infantry establishment, under the command of captain Moody, amounting to one hundred and sixty bayonets; a small detachment of coast artillery, consisting of two subalterns, one serjeant, one corporal, two gunners and

sixteen matrosses, commanded by lieutenant Abdy, with a four and half-inch howitzer, fifty pioneers under the orders of lieutenant Scouler, and lieutenant Davis of the engineer corps; captain Pym was enabled to make sail, about eleven o'clock, P. M. on the 7th instant, and about one o'clock we lay too off Grand Chaloupe, and immediately commenced our debarkation. The moment the grenadiers, commanded by capt. Lamphier, light infantry led by lieutenant Archibald Mc Lean, with major Mathews, of his majesty's 19th regiment, who did us the honour to accompany us as a volunteer, had effected theirlanding, at 2, P. M. I immediately pushed the latter forward, supported by the former, to drive away small parties of the enemy's riflemen, who were keeping up an harassing fire, and to secure possession of the heights; this service having been most gallantly and successfully performed, I halted for the body of the regiment, and, conformably with the orders I received, I moved forward with the regiment, without waiting for the artillery, sepoys, or pioneers, till I reached the height above St. Denis, and descended towards it, to watch a range of the enemy's batteries and musquetry, with about 350 bayonets. At half-past five o'clock, P. M. the sun just setting, I had not sufficient day-light to reconnoitre the ground; but I had the mortification to ascertain that I could not, that evening, expect any co-operation or assistance from the other divisions, owing to the apparent impracticability of their landing, from the extreme violence of the surf.

Under these circumstances I determined to postpone our attack against the enemy's batteries till next morning, and when it became sufficiently dark to conceal our movement from the enemy, I fell back to the height, and took up a position for the night to prevent any reinforcements for the garrison arriving from St. Paul's. In the course of the night I was joined by the artillery, with a 43-inch howitzer, the sepoys and pioneers, with some spare ammunition.

At 4 o'clock on the morning of the 8th, we began to descend the mountain, leaving the sepoys posted on the summit to protect our rear from any attack which might be meditated by the garrison of St. Paul's.

Before the advanced guard of the 86th regiment had reached the work they occupied on the preceding evening, they were discovered by the enemy's sentries, who had been planted on the road during the night to observe our motions; the column, however, advanced and took up the position which I had determined on the night before. At day-light the enemy had collected in force, and opened a heavy fire of cannon, shells, and musketry, on the column, and soon afterwards detached some riflemen to gain a road upon our right; the light infantry, supported by the grenadiers, were then ordered to descend the hill, and were followed by the remainder of the column, under a heavy fire from the enemy, who were drawn up in two columns, each with a field piece on the plain, supported by the heavy cannon mounted on the redoubt. On reaching the plain, the regiment was ordered to charge, when they immediately rushed on the enemy with the bayonet, who remained at their guns, until our brave grenadiers came in contact with them; their commandant, M. de Suzanne, escaping with difficulty, and their second in command was wounded and taken prisoner by captain Lamphier; the enemy attempted to form behind the parapet of the redoubt, but were pushed so closely by the grenadiers, that they were obliged to abandon it, leaving a brass six-pounder in our hands, which was immediately turned upon them. In the redoubt were four 12-pounders, which we found spiked. I instantly directed the king's colours to be planted on the top of the redoubt, and detached the grenadiers to storm the two batteries marked No. 7 and 8, in the plan of attack, which service they gallantly performed. In the battery No. 7, we found four 24-pounders, spiked by the enemy. No. 8, a 12-inch mortar, and five 24-pounders, two of which were spiked, with a furnace full of red-hot

shot; observing, however, that the enemy could take these batteries in reverse, I recalled the grenadiers after spiking the remaining guns, and confined my views in maintaining the position I then occupied before the town.

Two 12-pounders in the redoubt were rendered serviceable by the exertions of lieutenant Abdy, and his small detachment of artillery, and these with our four and a half-inch howitzer, answered the incessant cannonade of the enemy, which continued until the arrival of the rear column of the troops sent to my support at four o'clock in the evening; the enemy once attempted to retake the redoubt, but were repulsed with the loss of their commanding officer, who was made prisoner.

About 4 o'clock in the evening, we were joined by lieutenant-colonel Drummond's brigade, and about the same time the enemy sent out a flag of truce to treat for the surrender of the place; but I refused to treat, unless for the surrender of the whole island. An honourable capitulation for the garrison; the religion, laws, and private property of the inhabitants to be respected, and a suspension of arms for 24 hours to arrange the articles of capitulation; the troops remaining at the posts they then occupied, were the terms proposed by the enemy: to the two first I readily acceded, but refused the latter, insisting that the royal battery should be given up to our grenadiers, and the British colours hoisted the moment the terms were signed, which I gave them one hour to consider of; at the expiration of which the flag returned with a request from M. de St. Susanne, that an officer might be sent in to assist in arranging the terms, upon which I sent in major Edwards, shortly after which you arrived, and assumed the command.

The accompanying are the returns of the killed and wounded of the detachment.

I cannot conclude without requesting permission to offer my humble tribute of praise to the noble spirit which seemed to animate every individual of my small detachment; from major Edwards, who commanded the regiment, I received the greatest assistance; captain Lamphier, lieutenant Archibald Mc Lean, and every officer and soldier of the corps, displayed the most ardent valor, which must have been conspicuous to the whole force off the coast, who witnessed their heroic conduct; captain Moody, who commanded the sepoys, captain Lambert, who did me the honour to attend as my aid-de-camp; lieut. Davis, of the engineers; lieutenant Abdy, commanding the artillery, and lieutenant Scouler, of the pioneer corps, rendered me the most essential services in their respective departments.

To lieutenant Creagh, my brigade-major, I was highly indebted for his unremitted exertions and attention to the duties of his station, from the beginning of the service I was sent on, to the fatal moment when he was struck by a cannon ball, while he was in the act of encouraging our artillery-men in the redoubt, of which we had just possessed ourselves, and which I fear will deprive his sovereign and his country of the services of a most promising officer.

I have, &c.

Occurrences for December.

Dec. 14.—The honourable court of directors have been pleased to authorize this government to subscribe on the part of the company, the sum of 5000 pagodas per annum to the military, and 1000 pagodas to the medical fund.

G. O. By the Commander-in-Chief.

Dec. 15. — The commander-in-chief has lately received copies of various complaints which have been transmitted to the government, from the magistrate of the zillah of Ganjam, against certain officers of the army, who have presumed to inflict corporal punishment on persons over whom they had no legitimate controul, and even to maltreat the native officers employed, under the authority of the magistrate, in the direction of the inferior duties of police in the zillah of Ganjam.

The commander-in-chief deemed it to be his duty to ascertain, that the

complaints were well founded, before he proceeded to act upon them.

He directed the necessary enquiries to be made, and called on the parties accused to reply to the accusation. Their answers have admitted the fact of their unauthorised assumption of authority, and whatever weight may be given by the proper authority to the circumstances of provocation, which they have stated in palliation of their offences, it becomes the duty of the commander-in-chief thus publicly to record his strong disapprobation of their conduct.

When the behaviour of any public servant of the government in the public or other departments is such as to require correction, the parties aggrieved by such misconduct have a regular channel for obtaining redress, by an application to the superior civil authorities in the district, or if necessary, to the paramount authority of the government; and complaints regularly made on reasonable and just grounds will assuredly meet with attention:—but when military officers arrogate to themselves powers which the regulations of the government have expressly and exclusively entrusted to the civil magistrates, they must not expect to escape the punishment which attaches to a breach of established orders, nor will that punishment in future be limited to the expression of censure.

That the character of the officers of the army at large, may not be subjected to imputation from the culpability of a few, the commander-in-chief deems it necessary to name the officers whose irregularity of conduct has called for this animadversion; and thus publicly to censure captain John Simmons, of the 11th regiment of N. I. for an undue assumption of authority, in causing certain grain dealers in the bazir of Chicacole to be flogged; and lieutenant James Jobson, and assistant surgeon Gibbon, of the 4th regiment of Native Infantry, for striking and otherwise maltreating, at different times, the Cutwalls of villages in the zillah of Ganjam, whose conduct had given them cause of offence. The contrition these officers have expressed, with circumstances which they have stated in excuse, have in the present instance induced the commander-in-chief to confine his notice of their error to the expression of his disapprobation, but he desires it may be fully understood "that irritation and passion," cannot be admitted as justifying the breach of positive regulation, or any deviation from that respect which is due from every member of the community to the officers, or subordinate agents of the civil power.

Dec. 15.—It being the intention of his excellency the commander-in-chief to proceed at an early period on a tour of inspection to the several stations of the army, all officers now absent from corps belonging to the centre division will join forthwith; those whose corps are in the ceded district of Mysore, must join by the 15th of January; and those belonging to Malabar and Canara, Travancore, and the southern division, by the First of February next.

The only exceptions to this order will be officers who have obtained leave of absence beyond the presidency of Fort St. George, to those on sick certificate, whose health may still prevent them from joining; officers so situated must transmit immediately to the office of the adjutant-general of the army, medical certificates to that effect.

Officers whose business may be so urgent, as to induce them to wish to submit the particular circumstances of their case, for his excellency the commander-in-chief's further consideration in the hope of being exempted from the operation of this order, will do so immediately through the regular channel; and to avoid unnecessary delay, duplicates may be transmitted direct to the adjutant-general's office.

Dec. 21.—This morning arrived his Majesty's ship Phæton, captain Pellew, bearing the flag of his excellency rear-admiral Drury, and accompanied by his majesty's ships, Bucephalus, captain Pelly, and Barracouta, captain Owen.

A salute of 17 guns was fired on the admiral's ship anchoring, which was returned by the Bucephalus.

The transports with troops from this port, and from Bombay, arrived safely

at Roderigues, one transport only had reached that place from Bengal, which had parted company with the others off the Sand Heads. Admiral Drury left Roderigues on his return to this port, about the 8th of November, with the Phæton and Bucephalus.

The Barracouta accompanied the troops from Bourbon to Roderigues, and left that island the 22d November. On that day the expedition sailed from thence for the Isle of France, without waiting for the troops from Bengal.

Admiral Bertie was with the expedition, and his flag was hoisted on board the Africaine. He came from the Cape in the Nisus frigate. The troops from Bourbon consisted of his majesty's 69th and 56th regiments, the artillery under major Taynton, the detachment of his majesty's 25th dragoons, 400 sepoys of the flank companies of the 6th and 12th N. I. under major J. Vernon, of the 6th N. I. To these are to be added the force which last sailed from Madras and Bombay, forming an attacking force of about 6,000 men, besides seamen and marines. His majesty's 86th regiment, and the battalion companies of the 6th and 12th N. I. were left at Bourbon, under lieutenant-colonels Drummond and Fraser.

Lieutenant-general Abercrombie, major-general Warde, major Caldwell, chief engineer, with his excellency governor Farquhar, and the staff, were on board the Africaine on the 22d November. They expected to reach the Isle of France in two days. The troops and officers were all well, and in high spirits.—Col. Keating commanded the reserve.

Since the capture of the French frigate, Venus, none of the enemy's ships had ventured out of port. The name of the Venus had been altered to the Nereide, and she was blockading Port Louis.

The Ceylon and Africaine had been refitted and accompanied the expedition.

Occurrences for January.

Fort St. George, 11th Jan. 1811.

Captain Barlow, of his majesty's 34th regiment, private secretary and aid de camp to the honourable the governor, arrived this morning in his majesty's ship, Cornelia, with dispatches from the honorable Robert Townsend Farquhar, esq., governor of the Isle of France and its dependencies, announcing the surrender of the Isle of France on the 3d ultimo, to his majesty's and the honorable company's naval and land forces, under the command of their excellencies vice-admiral Bertie, and lieutenant-general the honorable John Abercrombie

Ordered that a royal salute from the ramparts of Fort St. George, and three vollies of small arms by the troops in garrison, be fired in honor of this important event.

The European troops in garrison to be victualled, and the native troops to receive dry batta to-day.

Published by order of the honorable the governor in council.

W. Thackeray,
Chief sec. to govt.

Jan. 15th.— On Friday last, the troops in garrison fired three vollies in honor of the capitulation of the Isle of France to his majesty's and the honorable company's naval and land forces, under the command of their excellencies vice-admiral Bertie and lieutenant-general the honorable John Abercrombie, and the Europeans in garrison were victualled on the occasion.

Jan. 22.—The honorable the governor in council derives much satisfaction in publishing to the army, the sentiments of distinguished approbation it has pleased the right honorable the governor-general in council to record on the occasion of the late successful attack made on the Dutch possessions at the island of Banda Neira, by the force employed on that service under the orders of captain C. Cole of the Royal Navy.

Extract of a letter to Captain Cole, commanding H. M.'s ship, Caroline, under date 23d Nov. 1810.

I am directed by the right honorable the governor-general in council to ac-

knowledge the receipt of your letter of the 29th ult. relative to the late successful operations of the force employed under your command in the reduction of the island of Banda.

The details of this brilliant achievement, and of your arrangements for the administration and security of the Island, as reported by you and captain Nixon to the government of Fort St. George, have been communicated to his Lordship in council, who observes, with just admiration, the judgment, ability, and foresight, manifested by you in the plan of attack; and the zeal, intrepidity, and precision with which it was carried into effect, by the gallant officers and men of the naval and military service under your direction. His lordship in council considers the rapid conquest of a place so strongly fortified by nature and art, in the face of a superior force, without the loss of a man, as forming a singular event in the annals of British enterprize, reflecting a peculiar degree of credit on your professional skill, and affording an extraordinary instance of discipline, courage, and activity, on the part of the officers and men under your command.

The governor-general in council considers the eulogium which you have bestowed generally on the detachment of the H. C. troops employed on this occasion, and especially on the conduct of their commanding officer, captain Nixon, and of lieutenant Yates and ensign Allen, to be highly honorable to them; and has directed the expression of his distinguished approbation to be conveyed to them generally and individually through the channel of the resident at Amboyna.

Occurrences for February.

FEB. 2.—On Tuesday last arrived his majesty's ship, Leda, captain Sayer, from Calcutta.

The honorable Sir John Newbolt, knt. puisne judge of the supreme court at Madras, landed about noon the same day, under the salute due to his rank, and immediately proceeded to the garden house of the honorable the chief justice.

This morning being the first day of term, the honorable Sir John Newbolt took his seat in the supreme court, under the customary formalities.

BOMBAY *Occurrences for* JANUARY, 1810.

JANUARY 6.—The following are the movements of the expedition subsequent to the result of the attack on Rhus ul Khyma.

From Rhus ul Khyma the troops proceeded to Linga on the Persian coast, where they destroyed twenty dows and boats, without sustaining any loss. From this place the expedition sailed to the port of Luft, situated on the north side of the Isle of Khisma, where they arrived on the 26th of November. In the afternoon of that day Moola Hussein, the chief of the place, sent on board his Majesty's ship Chiffonne for the purpose of treating for the surrender of the dows and boats, which he agreed to do; but when the appointed time arrived he refused to give them up.

Arrangements were accordingly made for the exercise of compulsory means. The dows and boats were ranged under cover of a small stone fort at the western extremity of the town. In the afternoon of the 27th three hundred men, consisting of the light company of the 47th, half a company of the 65th, with the Royal marines belonging to the Chiffonne, under the command of lieutenant Drury, and the detachment of the second Native Infantry,

assisted by a party of seamen under lieut. Chrichton of the Chiffonne, who were employed in bringing up a howitzer, were landed, and having taken possession of the town, proceeded to the attack of the Fort, and the destruction of the dows and boats, while the Fury, which drew little water, and the gun boats, were employed in keeping up a smart fire on the fort. The dows and boats, eleven in number, among which were three very large dows, were completely destroyed. The Fort made an obstinate resistance; but was at last delivered up by Moola Hussein, together with all the property which he had plundered from the Imaum.

It was taken possession of by a detachment of his Majesty's 47th regiment, and was the next day delivered up to Sheik Lervish the head of a tribe of Benimain Arabs attached to the Imaum of Muscat, in trust for the latter.

Moola Hussein was allowed to depart in safety.

The enemy had between seventy and eighty killed and wounded.

Our loss was not inconsiderable.

KILLED.—1 Officer and 3 rank and file of the 47th.—1 Serjeant, 1 rank and file of the 65th.—2 Sepoys of the 2d.—2 Seamen of H.M.'s ship Chiffonne.

WOUNDED.—1 Serjeant, and 9 rank and file of the 47th.—1 Officer, 1 serjeant, 6 rank and file of the 65th.—1 Jemedar and 12 Sepoys of 2d of the 2d.—16 Seamen of H.M.'s ship Chiffonne.—1 officer and 4 men of the H. C. cruizer Mornington.—1 Officer, H. C. cruizer Ternate.—1 Man of the H. C. cruizer Nautilla.—2 Do. of the Fury.

TOTAL.—10 killed, 56 wounded.

Names of officers killed and wounded.

Lieut. S. Weld, of H. M.'s 47th killed.—Lieut. S. R. Warren, of H.M.'s 65th wounded.—Mr. Hay, Midshipman, Mornington, do.—Mr. Grey, do. Ternate, do.

Yesterday the honourable Sir James Mackintosh proceeded to the adjudication of the H. C. ship Europe, and cargo, which was retaken at St. Paul's by the expedition under the command of Commodore Rowley, and lieutenant-colonel Keating. They were decreed to be restored to the owners on the payment of salvage and costs.

JAN. 13.—On Wednesday last, brigadier-general Malcolm, accompanied by the gentlemen and troops belonging to the Persian mission, left this place for Persia.

On the same day, N. H. Smith, Esq. sailed for the Gulph.

On Thursday, major-general Champagne, sailed for Calcutta.

Appropriate salutes were fired on the occasion of the embarkation of major-general Champagne and brigadier-gen. Malcolm.

The following officers and gentlemen accompanied brigadier-general Malcolm.

Captain Grant, commanding the escort of the Persian mission, captain Wauchope, Dr. Colquhoun, surgeon to the mission, Dr. Cormac, surgeon to the escort, lieut. Stewart, first assistant, lieut. Little, aid-de-camp,—lieut. Johnson, commanding the party of 17th light dragoons, lieut. Frederick, commanding infantry, lieut. McDonald, political assistant, ensign Fotheringham, commanding Madras cavalry, ensign Monteath, engineer, Mr. Williams, Mr. Babington.

JAN. 27.—Under this date is announced the fall of the fort of Shinaass. The force by which this enterprize was accomplished sailed from Muscat on the 24th of December last, and arrived at Shinaass on the evening of the 31st. In this expedition the English were accompanied by nearly 4000 of the Imaum's troops. The fort was summoned to surrender; and on refusal was bombarded by the ships and gun-boats. Its situation, however, was too distant to admit of such a mode of attack being efficacious; the troops were landed on the morning of the 2d Jan. about half a mile to the southward of the town, on a sandy beach, which is overflowed during high spring tides and a southerly wind; the position was an excellent one, as they had a back water running parallel to the sea about forty yards in front. The Imaum's troops were posted on the left of the British.

A $10\frac{1}{2}$ inch mortar, with a couple of field pieces, were taken across the creek with an intention of attacking the fort on its southern side, when a party of the enemy's cavalry made their appearance from the woods which

run along the coast about a mile distant from the sea, and commenced an attack: but they were at length put to flight by the advanced party. This circumstance, which shewed that this plan of operations was exposed to frequent interruptions of this kind, determined lieutenant-colonel Smith to change his plan. He accordingly entrenched himself in the position above mentioned, and erected a battery against the sea face of the fort. The zeal of captain Wainwright soon lined this battery with two 24-pounders, one 12-pounder carronade, and three brass 12-pounders from the fleet, in addition to the three field pieces belonging to the detachment. A very heavy fire was opened at day-break of the 3d, and between nine and ten o'clock, a breach was made in the curtain, and shortly afterwards one of the towers of the fort fell in. The guns were then directed to the other towers, from which however it was found impossible to drive the enemy. Two o'clock was the hour appointed for storming; in which a body of 400 of the Imaum's troops were to assist. While the different detachments were taking up their stations of attack, the Imaum's troops, from misunderstanding the orders, got before the British, and entered the breach first, but our soldiers observing this, soon got up to them, and passed them: on which the Imaumees readily yielded up the remaining labor and honor of the day.

By five o'clock the fort was entirely surrendered, and shortly afterwards was given up to the Imaum's troops.

It is impossible to contemplate a more obstinate resistance than was made by the enemy in this position.—His defences were nearly battered to ruins, and the greatest part of his garrison lay around in mangled heaps; still, in this hopeless condition, while the body of his fort was occupied by the British and Imaumees, he persevered at every the least cessation of the musquetry, to fire upon them from two of his towers, which were not sufficiently destroyed to admit of an immediate dislodgment. Every attempt to scale these towers was made in vain; every access to them was strongly barricadoed and defended by long spears, with showers of large stones from their tops. Evening was now fast approaching, when humanity, and every other consideration, calling for a termination to such a scene of carnage, the few survivors in the fort were called upon to surrender and save their lives. Death sooner than submission was the answer they sent. Two 12-pounders and three pieces were now brought up from the battery, and a heavy fire with double shot was opened close under the towers in order to level them. The enemy still kept up his fire, and seemed determined to bury himself in the ruins. The hand grenades and fire-balls which were made use of, were returned upon the British before they could burst, with deliberate resolution. As the towers were rapidly falling in, and every soul in a short time must have perished, the firing was ordered to cease, and another effort made to save their lives.

Happily one man acquainted with the English character at length came forward, and after reiterated assurances of protection, the remainder were, through this man's means, prevailed upon to surrender.

It is impossible to do adequate justice to the great and unwearied exertion of the British officers and soldiers, to save the lives of their conquered enemies.

Men, whose practice it is to give no quarter, are not easily persuaded that any offer of it is sincere. The difficulty of producing such a persuasion on the minds of the unhappy wretches on the present occasion, was enhanced by the desperate animosity which prevailed between them and our allies.

Our officers frequently interfered at the risk of their own lives, to protect the former from the ferocious rage of the latter. The personal exertions of lieutenant-colonel Smith were eminently conspicuous.

Our loss was trifling, amounting only to one killed and eleven wounded; amongst the latter were lieuts. W. C.

Harvey and H. Taylor of H. M's 65th regiment.

The loss of the enemy was 400 killed.

JAN. 19.—The honorable the governor in council is pleased to permit lieutenant-colonel Alexander Walker to proceed to England, with the option of retiring from or returning to the service at the expiration of his furlough.

The sentiments of government on the high professional character, and distinguished merits of lieutenant-colonel Walker, were expressed in the orders, dated the 19th of January, 1809, on the occasion of that officer's former embarkation for Europe. The communication of the wishes of the right honorable the governor-general, that the residence of colonel Walker in this country, might be prolonged for the purpose of carrying into effect an arrangement of great political importance, determined the lieutenant-colonel to return to his station, and to reassume the functions of his office.

Having immediately entered upon the delicate duties committed to his able management, the progress of his negotiations, and the success of his measures, have been marked by that judgment, ability, and address, of which he has afforded so many decided proofs: at the same time that the reputation of the British arms has been maintained and extended under his approved military talents and skill, in a degree that has already attracted the distinguished approbation of the right honorable the governor general; the governor in council therefore, in announcing lieutenant-colonel Walker's ultimate return to his native country, embraces the opportunity of renewing the expression of the obligations of this government for those important services, which have already received its cordial and unqualified testimony; and which have been enhanced by the eminent and substantial benefits that this presidency has derived from his protracted residence in India.

Occurrences for February.

FEB. 10.—Intelligence by the ships arrived from the Gulph states that general Malcolm and his suite, and Mr. N. H. Smith, had reached Muscat in pursuance of their respective missions; and that the gallant officers in command of the Expedition against the pirates, were successfully prosecuting the service of annihilating the floating power of those cruel and unprincipled freebooters,

FEB. 14.—At a general court-martial, held at Bombay, on the seventh day of November, 1809, and continued by adjournment to the 24th day of January following, lieutenant N. C. Maw, of the regiment of European infantry, was arraigned upon various charges of drunkenness, riotous and ungentlemanlike behaviour, during the voyage from England, exhibited against him by captain Nash, commander of the H. C.'s ship Marchioness of Exeter.

The court passed the following sentence, viz.

"The court having maturely weighed and considered the evidence in support of the prosecution, together with what the prisoner, lieutenant N. C. Maw has adduced in his defence, are of opinion, that he is 'not guilty' of the first part of the first charge, viz. 'insulting captain Nash at his own table, on the 14th of July, 1809,' but the court find the prisoner guilty of having made use of an unguarded and improper expression, in calling captain Nash a 'blackguard,' when going out of the cuddy.

"On the second charge, the court are of opinion that the prisoner is 'not guilty,' and do therefore honorably acquit him of this charge.

"On the third charge, the court are of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty of the crime stated in this charge, and do therefore honorably acquit him.

"The court having found the prisoner guilty in part only of the first charge, which being a breach of the articles of war, in such cases made and provided, adjudge, that he the prisoner, lieutenant N. C. Maw, of the honorable company's regiment of European infantry, shall be admonished, in such manner, as the commander in chief may please to direct.

"In passing the above sentence on the prisoner, lieutenant Maw, the court are anxious to express, that they do not in the smallest degree attach any description of conduct, unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, as set forward against him in the charges, the two last of which, in the opinion of the court, are altogether 'vexatious, frivolous, and malicious,' and appear not to have been preferred from any motive of public justice."

The commander in chief approves and confirms the sentence of the court; and in carrying it into execution, he desires it to be known, that the extent to which the charges preferred against lieutenant Maw have been proved, is so clearly expressed in the sentence of the court-martial, the commander in chief considers the publication of their opinion, in general orders, to be a sufficient admonition.

Lieutenant Maw is released from his arrest, and ordered to join his corps without delay.

FEB. 15.—Two vessels have arrived from the Gulph, but have brought no further European intelligence. Sir H. Jones, had quitted the Persian Court at Taheran, and had proceeded towards Constantinople, on his way to England. An invitation to proceed to Taheran, couched in the most flattering terms, had been sent to brigadier-general Malcolm.

The expedition under the command of captain Wainwright and lieutenant-colonel Smith, was on its return to Bombay, and may now be hourly expected to arrive.

The following orders were published by lieutenant-colonel Smith, on the fall of the fort of Schenaass.

General Orders.

"Lieutenant-colonel Smith avails himself of the first moment of leisure after re-embarking of the troops, to express his perfect admiration and applause at the conduct of all ranks in the capture of Schenaass on the 3d instant: their exertions in throwing up entrenchments, and alertness during the siege, their patience under fatigue, and gallantry in the assault, alike deserve the lieutenant-colonel's praise and thanks.

"The humanity of British soldiers will be honoured and long remembered throughout Arabia, from the fate of Schenaass, defended as it was with such mad resolution and persevering obstinacy. The generous treatment shewn to the few survivors after the fall of the fort will never be forgotten, and must compel even savages to feel and practice mercy.

"The lieutenant-colonel rejoices, that the success of this little force has never been stained by a single act of cruelty, and he rests confident, that every soldier will continue to observe that degree of moderation, which is never separated from true courage.

"The lieutenant-colonel's thanks are due to all who served under him on this occasion, but he feels it just to offer his special acknowledgments to major Milnes of his majesty's 65th regiment, and the officers and men who composed the storming party, for the firmness and good order with which they marched to the assault; also to captain Clutterbuck, 65th regiment, and the brave little band of volunteers, who headed the party. His thanks are also due to major Garstin, who commanded the reserve, and to captain Storey, in command of the detachment of the 65th and native troops, to guard our most exposed flank against any attempt of the enterprising cavalry, which that officer so handsomely put to flight on the preceding day. The commanding officer makes his full acknowledgments of the skill and unwearied exertions of captain Sealy, commanding the artillery, and he begs him to accept and communicate his best thanks. The indefatigable zeal of captain Tucker, attached to the artillery, displayed itself to the same advantage as at Rusulkhyma, and is most thankfully noticed.

"The lieutenant-colonel's particular thanks are likewise due to Mr. surgeon Young, and the officers of the medical department, for their humane attention not only to our own wounded, but to those of our allies, and the unfortunate prisoners.

(Signed) "N. WARREN, M.B."

Feb. 25th.—The whole of the troops lately employed on the expedition against the Pirate states in the gulf of Persia, have returned, with the exception of about 100 men, who remain in that quarter, with captain Wainwright of the Chiffonne, and his detachment of company's cruizers. After their success at Schenaass, the expedition had proceeded against other ports in the gulph; but no further military operations were found necessary, the terror of their name being sufficient to induce the pirates to comply with their demands. At these places the pirates themselves undertook the destruction of the dows and other craft lying in their harbours.

General Orders.

Bombay Castle, 26th Feb. 1810.

By government.

The armament prepared at this presidency, under the order of the right honourable the governor-general in council, for the purpose of suppressing the depredations of the Jowassimee pirates in the gulph of Persia, and assisting his highness the Imaum of Muscat, in the recovery of some of his towns on the Arabian coast, of which that tribe had possessed themselves; having returned to port, after the accomplishment of the object of its equipment, in a manner the most creditable and satisfactory; the governor in council has sincere satisfaction in publishing the following letters this day received from the secretary to the right honourable the governor-general, which have so fully anticipated the sentiments of this government, on the conduct of the forces, under the command of captain Wainwright, of his majesty's ship La Chiffonne, and lieutenant-colonel Lionel Smith, of his majesty's 65th regiment, that it only remains to the governor in council to subscribe to the distinguished testimony, which has been afforded by the right honourable the governor-general of the merits of that detachment.

F. Warren,

Chief sec. to govt. Bombay.

Sir,

I am directed to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 3d instant, containing copies of reports of the proceedings of the expedition in the gulph of Persia, subsequently to the capture of Rasool Khyma.—2. The right honourable the governor-general has received these additional proofs of the energy, zeal, and ability of the commanders of the military and naval forces employed on the service, of the gallantry and exemplary conduct of the forces under their command, with the greatest satisfaction and admiration. His lordship considers the successes which they have obtained to be of the greatest importance, and is of opinion, that all the operations of the expedition, reflect the highest honour on captain Wainwright, and lieutenant-colonel Smith, and all the officers and men under their command.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) N. B. Edmonstone,

Secretary.

Fort St. George, Jan. 27, 1810.

G. C. Osborne, Esq.

Sec. to govt.

Sir, *Bombay.*

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your dispatch of the 27th ultimo, accompanied by detailed accounts of the brilliant capture of the port of Shenaas, by the forces under the command of captain Wainwright, of his majesty's navy, and lieutenant-colonel Smith.

2d. The right honourable the governor-general has perused, with great satisfaction, the interesting details of that gallant enterprize, and directs me to express his admiration of the professional skill, energy, bravery, and humanity of the commanding officers and men employed on that arduous undertaking.

I have the honour to be, &c.

N. B. Edmonstone, sec.

Fort St. George, 14th Feb. 1810.

By order of the honourable the governor in council.

(Signed) F. Warren,

Chief sec. to govt.

Lieutenant-colonel Smith, on his return to the presidency, was received on his landing by a salute of fifteen guns.

Occurrences for March.

Bombay Castle, 24th March, 1810.
General order by government.

The governor in council is pleased to publish the following extract from a letter from the right honourable the governor-general, dated the 7th of March, as containing a further testimony of his lordship's entire approbation of the operations of the force lately employed in the gulph of Persia, and in promulgating these sentiments on the final issue of the expedition, the governor in council avails himself of the opportunity of expressing the extreme concern of his government at the casualties that have occurred in the force, and in particular in his majesty's 65th regiment.

Whilst sincerely lamenting the loss which his Majesty's service has sustained in the deaths of captain Dansey of the 65th, and of lieutenant Weld of the 47th regiment; the deprivation the former corps experiences in the services of lieutenants Harvey and Taylor, and of ensign Warren, in consequence of the wounds those officers received at the assault of Shinass, and the attack of the fort of Luft, and still severely labour under, has not passed unnoticed, nor unregretted by the governor in council; who, under a full and deep sense of the sufferings of those respectable and promising officers, is further pleased to direct that the field allowances of their rank be continued to them for a period of three months after the return of the force to this presidency.

Extract of a letter from the right honourable the governor-general, dated Fort St. George, March 7th, 1810.

Par. 3. The complete success which has attended all the operations of the expedition to the gulph of Persia, affords grounds for the highest satisfaction, and reflects great honour on capt. Wainwright, and lieutenant-colonel Smith, who appear to have conducted all the operations committed to their management, with distinguished zeal, prudence, promptitude, and ability.

By order of the honourable governor in council.

William Newnham,
Sec. to Govt.

Occurrences for April.

April 7.—The following letters were this day published, to contradict a report, which had gained credence, of a general commotion having taken place in a large portion of the territories subordinate to this presidency.

Secret department.

The honourable Jonathan Duncan, esq. President and governor in council.
Bombay.

Honourable Sir,—I received the chief secretary's letter of the 23d inst. on the 28th following, enclosing one under a flying sail for the commander-in-chief.

This I duly forwarded; but that officer being on the eve of departure, and perfectly satisfied with all my proceedings respecting Mandvie, left me to make a statement of them, which I have now the honour of doing.

The first account I received of a revolution having taken place at Mandvie, in favour of a mussulman, was on the 10th inst. The city soon rung with the same. In the evening, Shevanund, a brother of the vizier of Mandvie, fled into town, with the news of Sookanund the vizier having been killed by the Borahs, at the instigation of a wild Fakir, named Ubdul Rehman, and the rajah put to flight, he believed, to another small position of his, near Bolsaur, named Pardie.

In three days afterwards, I received a letter (No. 1,) from the faquir, stiling himself Meen Sahib, desiring me to pay the bearer, by name Soolimaun, three hundred rupees or quit Surat. Soolimaun had remained at Boodhan, in the Mandvie district, and sent the letter by a cooly, whom for the present I ordered into confinement. A great number of people had quitted the city to join this fanatic, and the Mahomedans generally began to assume a very threatening air.

On the 15th, the day preceding the Ede, a faquir from Boodhan was taken up, and three accomplices of the city. The faquir, who called himself Syud Peer Shah, acknowledged his coming into the city from Boodhan, with a message (No. 2) from Mean Ubdul Rehman Saheb (the fanatic) to Syud Hada, (of the Adawlut) desiring him to represent to me, that in the New Testament the name of Ahmud that was written was his, and therefore to acknowledge him or depart.

The next day, which was the Ede, I attended the ceremony. It was marked by the absence of the general number of Mahometans parading on the occasion, and an evident fear in the Hindoos, who had been very generally threatened by the circumcised tribe.

Appearances gathered weight; numbers had left this city and Ranier to repair to Boodhan; those in the town began to assail the Hindoos with the cry of Deen, and there was every cause to suppose, from the expressions of Ubdul Rehman, that he was intent upon bringing about a revolution in the city.

By the 17th, two Borahs of Boodhan were sent to me by the Kazy, with a letter (No. 3,) they had brought to him from the fanatic, and one to me, desiring me to accept the religion of Mahomet, retire, or fight.

The best part of this and the following day was taken up in collecting information, which all bespoke the determined resolution of the fanatic, and the hearty concurrence of his brother Mahometans to try a revolution here, when I resolved to take the sudden step of seizing him.

About two o'clock I imparted this (No. 4) to colonel Keith, who approved the measure, and as the securing this insurgent faquir, who from the best intelligence had not left Boodhan, during the change of government, was the primary object, two troops of cavalry were ordered to proceed by night, in order to invest the place, and get hold of him if they could, or bar his departure, till the arrival of four companies of infantry. Captain Cunningham, who commanded the infantry, Dunjee Shah Behramund Khan, a vakeel of the rajah of Mandvie, and four scouts attended them.

The dragoons arrived about daylight at Boodhan. Dhunjee Shah was among the first over the river, and endeavoured to prevail on the Faquir to surrender himself, but was killed in the attempt, with the rajah's vakeel, and some others near him.

A furious engagement ensued betwixt the people and troops, in which the former had recourse to every species of sorcery and madness, and left nearly two hundred dead on the field. The cavalry lost a corporal and two privates, and several horses, and saw the town in flames when they came away. Shortly after their departure, the infantry, under captain Cunningham, renewed the attack to the destruction of many more, and amongst them the Fanatic himself, Ubdul Rehman, who had been wounded by the dragoons, and taken refuge with several more in a blacksmith's hut. The rajah had been two or three days confined by him, but had made his escape the morning of the attack; it was not known whither. The 56th regiment was ordered on to Mandvie, and the religious commotion was, by the death of Ubdul Rehman, totally allayed.

On the 22d, we received accounts of the fall of Mandvie, and that the rajah was in the camp. General Abercrombie arrived about four o'clock in the afternoon of the day; the reports before mentioned, were soon confirmed, with accounts of the Arabs having fired the town, and gone off with much treasure. The 56th regiment was ordered in with the two eighteens, and the rajah invited to accompany them.

On the 27th, the rajah himself arrived, and paid me a visit on the 28th. He is about five and thirty, of large bulk, with much good nature, and few words.

I have the honour to be, with respect,
Honourable Sir,
Your most obedient,
humble servant,
N. Crow, Chief.

Surat, 31st January, 1810.

(No. 1.)

To Mr. Crow, Sahib, with Mean Sahib's compliments from Boodhan; my man is come to you, pay him three hundred rupees, (300) and if you will not do it, you may get into another place. The man is about to proceed to Brôda, therefore deliver him the aforesaid sum, and return him. Dated, Poush Sud, 6th, or the 4th, corresponding with the 11th January, 1810.

The person's name is Soolimaun, who comes to you, pay him the said sum, and dispatch him.

True translate,
N. Crow, Chief.

(No. 2.)

Declaration of Syud Peer Aly, Syud Share Aly, an inhabitant of Punjaub, aged about 40 years.

About four days ago, I went to visit Mean Ubdul Raymaun Sahib, at Boodhan, and staid there two nights; yesterday morning I took his leave for Surat, with an intention to perform the pilgrimage of Mecca, at which time he told me to carry a message to Syud Hada Sahib, for the ear of Mr. Crow, Saheb, that in his christian book Engeel, or testament, the name of Ahmud is written, which is himself, (Ubdul Raymaun) therefore, that he must conform to his orders, otherwise get away; which mission, I accordingly performed yesterday evening, to Syud Hada Sahib; dated 15th January, 1810.

(Signed) Syud Peer Shah.
True translate,
N. Crow, Chief.

(No. 3.)

To all counsellors, and the Hakim of Surat; be it known that the Emaumul Deen of the end of the world, or Emaum Mehdee, has now published himself, and the name of this Durveish is Ahmud; and that in the Hindevie, they call him *Rajah* Nukluk. Be it further known to you, that if the Esslaum, (the Mahometan faith) is accepted, it is better, otherwise empty the town, or on the contrary, you may prepare for battle. This fakir is now come down from the fourth Sky, with four bodies; combining Adam, (on whom be peace) Essah the son of Marium, (Jesus the son of Mary) and Ahmud, (on whom be peace) and they have all four come upon one place; they have no guns nor muskets with them, but a stick and a handkerchief are with me, be yourself prepared. Dated, 11th Zilhij, corresponding with the 17th January, 1810.

(No. 4.)

Colonel Alexander Keith, commanding the Southern division of Guzerat.

Sir,

1st. I find myself urged by the conduct of a set of Mussulman fanatics, who have killed the Vizier, and taken upon themselves the administration of Mandvie, to make this representation against them.

2d. The rajah of Mandvie is a prisoner in their hands, and also the eldest son of his late vizier, whose name was Sookunund. The deceased's brother, by name Shevanund, and his second son Vidianund, have both fled here.

3d. These fugitives have claimed the protection of the company, and from all circumstances, I think it should be granted without delay.

4th. The fanatic who is the head of the rebellion, maintains his seat in a Mosque, at Boodhan, about ten coss, on the opposite side of the river. He is called Abdul Rehman. From the dangerous tendency of Mahometan fanaticism in this country, and the correspondence which he has already extended to me, and to others, I think no time should be lost in reducing him.

5th. He has about seventy-five Arabs with him, and about two hundred more are at Mandvie, which is beyond Boodhan, nearly the same distance.

6th. It is advisable that a party of horse should be dispatched without delay, to seize the faquir, and another party of infantry with guns, to take possession of Mandvie.

7th. The rajah should be sent in as soon as Mandvie may be taken, and the commandant of the detachment, assisted by Dhunjee Shah Behramund Khan, remain in charge till further orders.

8th. This is my opinion of the pre-

sent state of circumstances, and I beg leave respectfully to submit it to you.

I have the honour to be,
Your obedient,
Humble servant,
(Signed) N. Crow, Chief.
Surat, 18th February, 1810.

Occurrences for May.

May 2.—On Monday afternoon arrived in the harbour, the honourable company's regular ships Cuffnells, captain Welbank, and the Thomas Henchman, of Bombay, captain Brown, from China.

These ships bring intelligence that the interruption to the trade, which had taken place, in consequence of the death of a Chinese, had been terminated amicably; and it seems extremely probable, that the whole affair was nothing more than a contrivance of the Mandarins, to delay the fleet during their negotiation with the Ladrones.

It appears that a dead Chinese had been found in Hog Lane, and that there were tremendous wounds on the body, but it had more the appearance of having been inflicted after death than before, and that the witnesses brought forward on the occasion, were of the lowest and most abandoned description, and from the nature of their testimony, there was every reason to believe they had been taught their lesson.

But what seemed to strengthen this suspicion more than any other circumstance, was the manner in which they had finally adjusted the business, "every exertion is to be used during the passage home, to discover the perpetrator of the deed, and in the event of detection, he is to be tried by the law of England," this is "China custom," with a vengeance.

Tehran, 2d April, 1809.

Sir,

We the undersigned, who have witnessed the many difficulties which have attended your mission to this court, and the signal success that has at length crowned all your measures; in commemoration of so happy an event, in admiration of your ability, and in gratitude for your attention to our comfort and happiness, have requested Mr. Morier, on his arrival in England, to cause a vase to be made, of which we now take the liberty to beg your kind acceptance.

(Signed) James Morier,
Thos. H. Sheridan,
James Sutherland,
St. John Blacker,
Henry Willock,
James D. Campbell,
Jaffer Ally Khan.

To Sir Harford Jones, Bart. His Majesty's Envoy Extraordinary, and Minister Plenipotentiary at the Court of Persia.

Teheran, 2d April, 1809.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Morier has delivered your very obliging and flattering letter, notifying your intention of presenting me with a piece of plate.

I accept this token of your esteem with the greatest gratitude and respect, and however little I may think myself deserving of some expressions you have made use of, I shall ever retain the liveliest sense of the honour you have conferred on me.

It is certain the success of H. M.'s mission at this court, has been materially promoted by the propriety of conduct, and affability of manners which the gentlemen attached to it, have uniformly manifested towards the Persians; a circumstance I must ever recollect, with that delight which warms the heart of every Briton, when in a foreign country he hears his countrymen spoken of with respect and praise.

I intreat you, gentlemen, to accept my most fervent and most affectionate wishes for your health and future prosperity, and to consider me as being with respect and truth,

Your obliged humble servant,
(Signed) Harford Jones.

To James Morier, Esq. Thos. H. Sheridan, Esq. James Sutherland, Esq. St. John Blacker, Esq. Henry Willock, Esq. James D. Campbell, Esq. Jaffer Ally Khan.

MAY 16.—Sessions of Oyer and Terminer. On Saturday last, the quarterly sessions of Oyer and Terminer, and gaol delivery, commenced before Sir James Mackintosh, knight, and his associates, R. Steuart, Esq. mayor, S. Beaufort and J. Leckie, Esqrs. aldermen.

GRAND JURY.

Charles Forbes Esq. Foreman.

George Lukin; Mr. T. Harris; C. Shubrick; J. H. Pelly; W. B. T. Crozier; T. Riddock; J. Williams; Robertson; T. Turner; Wm. Mackintosh; N. Tucker; J. H. Crawford; C Keys; C. Learmouth; F. E. Lloyd; J. Pavin; T. H. Davies; T. Calder; J. G. Remington; J. Shrapnell; and P. Brown; Esqrs.

The honorable the recorder shortly addressed the grand jury and stated, that during the six years he had been in India, it had been his singular happiness never once to have had occasion to perform the terrible duties of his situation which require the sacrifice of human life; but he feared, from the appearance of the present calendar, containing four murders, that this privilege was on the eve of being brought to a conclusion; and that it would be necessary for him to shew his regard for human life in the exercise of other feelings than those of lenity.

In the course of the sessions, which commenced on the 12th, and terminated on the 14th, the following arraignments and trials took place.

Constantine Diego, an European Portuguese sea-cunny, was charged, on two separate indictments, with the murder of Shaik Jayed, a Calasse, and Secca Chunda Lutera, a Gowle, on the 5th of April last. The jury found him guilty of manslaughter on each, and for each offence he was sentenced to be imprisoned for six months in the gaol of Bombay.

Hugh Maclean, a matross of artillery in the service of the honorable company on the Bombay establishment, was indicted for the murder of Patrick Conolly, another matross, on the 8th July, near the fort of Mallia.

It appeared in evidence, that on the evening of the day on which the fort of Mallia had been so gallantly taken by storm, the prisoner and the deceased had quarrelled and fought; that the deceased, being the stronger man of the two, had got the better of the prisoner, that the prisoner, after the scuffle was over, had gone to the guard-room, which was distant about a hundred yards, had taken a bayonet thence, which he concealed under some part of his dress, had returned to the place where Conolly was, and engaging in a second scuffle with Conolly, gave him the mortal wound with the bayonet, of which he died. He was found guilty, but being recommended to mercy by the jury, was sentenced to be transported for seven years to New South Wales.

James Aherne, a matross of artillery in the same service, was indicted for the wilful murder of Dhurma Gooned, Hindoo, a police sepoy on the 17th March last.

The prisoner had been on guard at the Bazar gate of Bombay on that day; on his return to his quarters, he had unfortunately got intoxicated, and on the road he met with the horse-keeper of an officer, carrying his master's sword, which he wrested from him. He proceeded on his way, till he came near the Chokee where the deceased was sitting, when, without any provocation having been given, he assaulted the sepoy and struck him several blows with the sword, one of which inflicted a wound of great length and depth on the skull, which entered the brain, and was the cause of his death.

The prisoner, who had been followed all along by the horse-keeper, was after this traced by him into a Parsee liquor shop, where, with the assistance of two Hindoos, the sword was forcibly taken from him. The prisoner escaped, but he was the next morning recognised on parade by the horse-keeper and the Hindoos, and accordingly taken into custody. He attempted to prove an alibi in defence, but failed, and the honorable the recorder passed sentence of death in nearly the following terms:

"James Aherne,—You have been convicted of a murder, in many of its circumstances of a highly aggravated

nature. The man whom you murdered was unoffending and incapable of resistance.—As far as in you lay, you dishonoured the names of a soldier and a Briton; both which honourable names ought to have reminded you, that you were sent into this country to protect, not to destroy, the lives of its innocent inhabitants. You must not deceive yourself so far as to imagine, that these names are now any recommendation to the lenity of this court. There may be countries so unhappy, as in the administration of justice, to prefer their countrymen to strangers. The courts of your country have for ages been pure from the suspicion of such abominations, and we dare not wish the prevalence of them among our worst enemies as a punishment of their offences.

"That you are a British soldier, that the murdered man is a defenceless native of India, unknown to us even by name, are the circumstances which call for all the severity of justice.

"We can discover no circumstance of mitigation in your case, which can be mentioned here, without appearing to sanction principles in the utmost degree perilous to society. The state of your mind, when you committed this dreadful act, may be an available plea before the tribunal that will judge the heart, but it cannot be here recognized by us who judge outward actions with a view only to the safety of men and the peace of the community.

"It remains, therefore, that I advise you to employ the short remainder of your life in humble efforts to purify your heart from those disorderly and malignant passions which have brought you to an untimely end; and thus qualifying yourself for that happiness, which the benevolence of God will assuredly bestow on all his creatures who are capable of enjoying it."

The recorder then pronounced the usual sentence of death, to be executed on Monday the 28th of May.

MAY 26th.—1st. The honourable the governor in council of Bombay, in testimony of their entire approbation of the long and faithful services of Peerboy Seemjee Syrang, take this opportunity of his retiring from the marine, to make an especial record of the distinguished instances of his zeal, bravery, and professional merit.

2d. Peerboy Seemjee was born at Gogo, in the gulph of Bombay; he entered the marine service of the honourable company, at a very early age, and was promoted successively, from the station of a lascar, to that of a Tindal and Syrang, and at length to the dignity of commander.

3d. He was present at the capture of Surat, Malwan, Raree, Broach, and Baseen; and was employed on the expedition to Bussora, against Solomun Chaub, under commodore Nisbit, on all which services he obtained the marked approbation and applause of his commanding officers.

4th. He has performed various gallant actions, and captured many of the daring pirates, who committed depredations on the trade of this presidency; and when commanding the Gatton armed boat, proceeding to Jumbuseer, with a convoy, he fell in with, and engaged five piratical vessels, of which he sunk one, captured another, and the remainder effected their escape by flight.

5th. When in command of the Hart, armed boat, he was sent from Bombay to Surat, with treasure, amounting to three lacs of rupees: on his reaching Surat roads, he found two French privateers lying there, in consequence of which, in a most judicious manner, to avoid capture, he ran over the Malacca bank, where, from the danger of its navigation, the French vessels declined following him, and, in a most seaman-like manner, at the top of high water, weighed, and passing close round Toddy bank, to windward of the enemy, effected his escape into Surat river, and safely landed the whole of the treasure.

6th. As a reward for his able, determined, and officer-like conduct, the honourable governor Boddam presented him with a gold medal, entitled "the reward of merit," which medal was renewed and enlarged in the year 1802, under the administration of the honorable Jonathan Duncan, Esq.

7th. On another occasion, when in command of the Chaser, armed boat, and having 63 boats under convoy, he fell in with 22 piratical vessels, which attacked his convoy, and captured three boats, but he succeeded in effecting their re-capture, notwithstanding the numerous fires he had to contend with.

8th. In reward of services so rare, during the long period of 49 years, the honourable the governor in council has permitted the gallant veteran to retire upon the full pay and allowances of his rank, with the provision of a moiety to his wives, if they survive him, and to promote his son, Cassimjee Peerboy, to the command of the Chaser, and it is hoped, that this honourable tribute to his merits, will at once incite his posterity to emulate his noble example, assured as they are of ultimate reward from the justice of a British government.

Given under my hand, at Bombay Castle, this nineteenth day of May, 1810.

Adjourned sessions of Oyer and Terminer, and general gaol delivery.

Wednesday, 23d of May, the court having met, pursuant to adjournment, the following petition was read.

To the honourable Sir James Mackintosh, Recorder, &c.

My Lord,

Impressed with a deep sense of respect for your lordship's mild and liberal administration of public justice, and entertaining a due veneration for that clemency and compassion with which the laws of our country have been dispensed, under your benign influence, we are induced to address your lordship in behalf of a prisoner, who is now under sentence of death.

We should not have presumed to present to your consideration this subject, had we not been encouraged to hope, that the humanity which has so eminently distinguished your exalted situation, will pardon the motives which induce us to represent the prisoner's former good character during the period he has belonged to the artillery; under this impression, and trusting that the crime for which he is to suffer, was not the result of premeditated revenge; we most earnestly implore your lordship to extend towards the culprit, that mercy, which the legislature has, in its wisdom, placed in your hands; and in the exercise of which authority, your lordship has manifested a benevolence which must ever conspicuously reflect the highest honour on your public and private character.

We have the honor to be,

MY LORD,

Your lordship's very obedient,
and most humble servants,

John Bailie, lieut.-col. comdg. artil.; Samuel Carter, major; William Smith, captain; H. Hessman, captain; Henry W. Sealy, captain; Richard Whish, captain; E. Hardy, lieutenant; W. D. Robertson, lieutenant; Charles Ovans, lieutenant fire-worker; H. Dumbobeu, lieutenant fire-worker; Stratford Powell, lieutenant fire-worker.

The recorder observed, that the court listened with great respect to the recommendation of a body of gentlemen so highly respectable, and who on the present occasion, appeared in a character so worthy of British officers as that of the guardians and protectors of the soldiers under their command: every proposition favourable to humanity was peculiarly becoming and graceful in a military body, because their professional character shielded it from the suspicion of feebleness.

He said, that he should also consider this applieation as a pledge, that if recruits of dangerous character should find their way into the corps of artillery, the officers would carefully and vigilantly employ all the resources of military authority to protect the community from the depredations and outrages which might be apprehended from such recruits.

From respect for this recommendation, and for the circumstances of mitigation to which it adverted, with a very commendable caution and reserve, the court would, according to the power vested in it by the statute XL. George III. C. S. 79. 13, commute the punishment of death in the case of James Aherne into that of transportation for life.

Occurrences for June.

June 16.—Accounts from the gulph, announce the death of two most valuable officers, captain Grant and cornet Fotheringham, who were murdered by a freebooter of the name of Kulb Ali Khan, belonging to a Persian tribe, but who has many years settled in the Turkish territories.

It appears that captain Grant and Mr. Fotheringham had left Bagdad in the latter end of March, with an intention of proceeding to Ispahan by the route of the Beni Sam country, and the mountains at the back of it. A man of the name of Hyder, had been engaged as a guide, and who conducted them as far as the village of Mundulgeem, where they remained one night; the following day they marched again, and halted without the village of Mundulche, where they remained one night. Hyder the guide is said to have secretly communicated to Kulb Ali Khan Filee the intelligence of their arrival there.

Shortly after the party was met by a few of Kulb Ali Khan's horsemen, who told them that the Khan was at the head, and desired a Peshcush, which the gentlemen readily agreed to give him; while they were talking, the Khan came up, accompanied by twenty-one horsemen, and behaved very politely to the gentlemen, saying that he would set them on their road, and requested their company to his place of encampment; when they were no sooner alighted than he fell upon them; Captain Grant received a mortal wound from a carbine ball, while mounting his horse; the rest surrendered; after the Khan had searched their baggage, he bound the only christians of the party, namely Mr. Fotheringham, and his Armenian servant, a cook and a syce, and was proceeding to put them to death; they offered a thousand sequins each for their ransom, which was refused. The Khan desired them to become Mussulmen; they said they would, provided he took an oath to let them go afterwards on their way; without making any reply, he bound their hands behind them, and shot them one after the other.—The above account is principally taken from the report made to a person who had been dispatched by Mr. Rich, to a small town on the frontier to negotiate with Kulb Ali Khan for the release of the gentlemen; their melancholy fate not having been at first known. This person, on his arrival at Bedne, found captain Grant's Hindoostanee servant, with some others who had escaped. This account corresponds nearly with that received at Taheran from the Persian Prince, at Kermanshaw.

The account, however, given by the guide, who is directly charged with treachery in the account from Kermanshaw, and who is also strongly suspected of it by Mr. Rich, varies in some respect from this. He says that when they had got above a day's journey from Mondeli, he wanted to take captain Grant by a more direct and safe route, but that captain Grant pulled out a paper on which was sketched his route, and insisted on going through the mountains to Kertumabad. The guide represented to him the dangers and almost impossibility of that route; as they must pass through a defile infested by a robber, meaning Kulb Ali Khan, who would at least strip them and make them prisoners. Captain Grant, however, remained deaf to his remonstrances, and at last obliged him to accompany him; on arriving at the defile, Kulb Ali Khan met them, and in an instant his people were mixed with captain Grant's escort. The guide called out to captain Grant not to fire, and there would be no harm done; but at that moment captain Grant snapped a pistol at the Khan, which was returned by a shot from a carbine that struck captain Grant in the lower part of the belly, and he instantly fell to the ground; the guide says he himself was severely wounded and had one of his ears cut off. Mr. Fotheringham and the rest of the party were not hurt, and the Khan took them all away with them. The guide had not made his appearance at Bagdad, which,

together with other suspicious circumstances, had induced Mr. Rich to take steps to have him seized.

June 23.—On Tuesday last his majesty's ship the Minden, of 74 guns, built in the new docks of this presinency by Jemsetjee Bomanjee, was floated into the stream at high water, after the usual ceremony of breaking the bottle had been performed by the honorable the governor.

The day was unusually fine; and she proceeded from the dock to her moorings without damage or difficulty.

This interesting spectacle took place in the presence of some thousands of spectators, multitudes of whom had come from the neighbouring continent, attracted by the novelty and singularity of the scene.

In having produced the Minden, Bombay is entitled to the distinguished praise of providing the first and only British ship of the line built out of the limits of the mother country; and in the opinion of very competent judges, the Minden, for beauty of construction, and strength of frame, may stand in competition with any man of war that has come out of the most celebrated dock yards of Great Britain.

For the skill of its architects, for the superiority of its timber, and for the excellence of its docks, Bombay may now claim a distinguished place amongst naval arsenals.

It will be gratifying to those who take an interest in the progress of naval architecture, with the finest timber which the earth produces for such important purposes, to read the following extract from a letter, lately received from a distinguished naval character now in England.

"Jemsatjee may well be proud of his frigates; the Salsette sails as well as any of our frigates, stands up better, and had any other ship been frozen up in the Baltic, as she was for some weeks, captain Bathurst says she would not have stood the buffeting of the ice one day; whereas she came off unhurt. He says it was wonderful the shocks she stood during heavy gales."

Occurrences for July.

July 1st.—The honorable the governor in council is pleased to direct that the following extract, from the commands of the court of directors, under date the 17th of January, be published in order.

Extract of a letter from the honorable the court of directors in the military department, dated 17th Jan. 1810.

Para. 167.—We highly approve of your zealous and successful endeavours to reduce the military expenses of your presidency, in which we observe, with much satisfaction, that you have been most cordially and ably assisted by your military auditor general, captain Hay, and the members of your medical board, Dr. Helenus Scott, and Dr. William Sandwith, and we desire that you will signify to those officers, the high sense we entertain of their laudable and upright discharge of their duties as conscientious servants of the company.

True extract,

(Signed.) W. Newnham.
Sec. to Govt.

July 21st.—Henry Salt, esq. deputed on a mission to Abyssinia, arrived here on Monday last on board the Marian, captain Weatherhead, bound for London, which was driven in by stress of weather and want of repairs.

Mr. Salt left England in March, 1809, he touched at Madeira, and at the Cape, whence admiral Bertie afforded him convoy to Mosambique; from Mosambique Mr. Salt proceeded to Adeen, where he visited the Sultaun, and then through the Straits to Mocha. Here he made his preparations for prosecuting the objects of his mission into Abyssinia. In December Mr. Salt crossed over to the opposite coast;—where a new port being discovered on this occasion, at Amphyla, he endeavoured, and at length with great difficulty succeeded in gaining communication with his excellency the Ras Willed Selasie, or viceroy of Tigre. He concerted measures with the Ras to meet his people at Massowah. Here

he arrived on the — of February, and found the chieftain Debile and Mr. Pearce, who had been left in Abyssinia, with a view of acquiring the native languages. Mr. Salt soon after set out for Antalow, where he arrived after a month's journey, the chief difficulty attending which, was the transmission of two curricle guns through so mountainous a country.

At Antalow Mr. Salt found the Ras, with whom he continued until May: when, having happily succeeded in effecting the principal objects of his mission, he returned to the sea coast, visiting Axum in his way, and fortunately reached Mocha in the early part of June.

The following melancholy occurrence took place on Sunday night last, in this harbour. Captain Fea, of the Duncan, having dined on shore that day, went on board his ship in company with his brother at six o'clock. They afterwards visited the Mary country ship, and returned to the Duncan about nine, and went to bed. In the morning captain Fea was missing; the clothes which he had on the night before were still in his cabin; his brother, who slept immediately over him in the same cabin, was not disturbed by any noise or movement during the night.

It is supposed that he went on deck, and by some accident fell overboard, and not being able to swim, was unfortunately drowned. The body has not yet been found.

JULY 28th.—The Earl Camden, Indiaman, has been destroyed by fire.

This unfortunate accident took place on the night of the 23d instant, between the hours of twelve and one o'clock.

The fire broke out in the gun room, and instantly raged with such violence, that every endeavour to extinguish it proved ineffectual.

An attempt was made to scuttle her but in vain.

The flames soon obtained complete possession of the ship; the crew were obliged to quit her, and she drifted up the harbour, presenting an awful but magnificent spectacle of a floating mass of fire. She was fortunately the innermost ship, and to leeward of all the rest. No lives were lost. We have not learnt what occasioned this accident.

Occurrences for August.

On Monday the honourable the recorder gave judgment in the crim. con. cases of *Dawe v. Bond*, and *Phillips v. Cowper*. The judgment in both cases was for the plaintiffs, damages 10,000 rupees.

AUGUST 8th.—This day the 8 per cent loan closed, pursuant to notice.

Occurrences for September.

BOMBAY CASTLE, SEPT. 2d.—The honourable lieutenant-general John Abercrombie, the commander-in-chief at this presidency, having left India on a temporary destination which may engage his professional attention for several months; it has been in consequence resolved by government, that during such interval, or till further orders, the provisional command of the forces devolve on, and stand vested in, major-general Kenneth Macpherson, the senior officer on the staff; who will moreover take his seat at, and discharge, for the same period, the duties of acting president of the military board; subject at the same time to such occasional instructions or directions, as he may eventually receive from the commander-in-chief, on any points connected with the discipline, and good order of the army.

SEPT. 10th. — Brigadier-general Malcolm and his suite, left Tebriz, on the 23d of July, to proceed by the way of Hamaden to Bagdad. He is expected to reach this presidency in November.

At his audience of leave a new order was conferred on the general by the king of Persia; the insignia of which is a star having in the centre of it a lion and the sun. As a mark of peculiar distinction the star was presented to the general by the king's own hand, and the gift was accompanied by the strongest expressions

of favour and regard. At the same time a firman was made out appointing him a Khan.

The king and the prince Abbas Mirza requested general Malcolm to remain in their country in a military capacity, and to conduct the campaign against the Russians. In this request Sir Harford Jones joined. To this request however the general did not think proper to accede.

The Russians have taken possession of Megree, a strong post on the Araxes, commanding a principal ford over that river. It is garrisoned by 800 Russians; a camp of 5000 Persians is formed in its neighbourhood; in the face of which a convoy of stores and provisions, under the charge of two hundred Russians, was lately successfully thrown into Megree.

SEPT. 11. "G. N.—Some disappointments having occurred to individuals, by the close, on the 8th of August last, of the late loan, at a shorter notice than seems to have, in several instances, been contemplated; the honourable the governor in council,—desirous to extend the means of accommodation to those who may stand in that predicament, — as well as generally to such persons as may yet have in view to pay money into the treasury; is pleased to notify that a supplemental loan, on the conditions of the last, has been this day opened, for cash subscriptions, or authorised public demands inclusive of such bullion, or foreign coin, as may be tendered at prices not exceeding the mint rates; without subjecting owners of the latter description of funds to await, during the existing obstruction to circulation, the period of its mintage into rupees."

SEPT. 12. — The sword presented by the officers of the Bombay fencibles to captain Campbell, has lately been received from England by the Castlereagh, and is an elegant piece of workmanship, executed by Rundell and Bridge, under the direction of major Fawcett.

The following is the inscription on it.

Presented to captain Alexander Campbell, of the 9th Bombay regiment Native infantry, late adjutant of the Bombay fencible regiment, as a testimony of the high sense of the manner in which he conducted the duties of his station, whilst attached to the fencible regiment, and which was equally creditable to himself, advantageous to the public, and satisfactory to the officers of the corps.

John Fell, lieutenant-colonel; Charles Forbes, major; James Law, major; H. Shank, J. Leckie, J. Hungerford, William Kenedy, J. Cumberlege, J. Douglas, William Crawford, Francis Warden, captains; J. Williams, captain-lieutenant; J. Hallet, D. D. Inglis, J. Forbes, S. M. Thriepland, J. C. Remington, G. C. Osborne lieutenants.

Captain W. Cowper, Bombay engineers, &c. &c.

SIR,—It has been impossible for the merchants of Bombay to view, without the most lively interest, the institution and progress of the great works accomplished by you, in the Dock Yard at this presidency; which, while they afford facilities towards the construction and repairs of his majesty's navy, which no British port out of Europe can boast, must essentially contribute to the accommodation of our shipping; the means of which have hitherto borne no proportion to the commerce of this settlement.

We feel gratitude for the success of your persevering labour, combined with admiration of the consummate skill, which appears to have been displayed in the construction of the two docks, capable of containing the largest ships of the line; which, whether the durability of the structure, or the beauty of their form and proportions be considered, we believe, no works for similar purposes in any part of the world can excel.

In token of these sentiments, we have sincere pleasure in congratulating you, on the completion of this magnificent undertaking, so important to the naval and commercial interests of the East, and as commemorative of the sense we entertain of your eminent public services, we request you will

do us the honour to accept a vase of the value of two hundred guineas.

We have the pleasure to subscribe ourselves,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

(Signed) Forbes and Co.
Bruce, Fawcett and Co.
Shotten, Calder and Co.
Briscoe and Beaufort,
John Leckie,
De Sousa and Co.

Bombay, 28th September, 1810.

To Messrs. Forbes and Co. Bruce, Fawcett and Co. Shotton, Calder and Co. Briscoe and Beaufort, John Leckie, and De Sousa and Co.

Gentlemen,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your very flattering and unexpected address of the 28th instant, conveying your opinion of the new docks lately constructed at this place, and requesting my acceptance of a vase, as a durable token of the sentiments you have been pleased to express.

It was my good fortune to be called on by the government for the execution of this arduous undertaking, and I am proud to find that my services have been considered by so very respectable a body as the British merchants of Bombay, as likely to advance the commercial interests of this important settlement.

The terms in which you have done me the honor of commending the performance of the great undertaking, very far surpass its intrinsic merits; and the munificent present which you have offered to my acceptance, I am convinced is more a proof of that generous feeling with which you are ever disposed to view the efforts of an individual, if applied with zeal in a public cause, than of a just estimate of those deserts which have appeared entitled to such distinguished notice.

I beg you to receive my grateful thanks, and believe me with great respect,

Gentlemen,

Your most obedient, humble servant,

(Signed) W. Cowper.

Bombay 30th September, 1810.

Bombay Castle, 20th September, 1810.

The honorable the governor in council, having had repeated occasion to observe that officers resorting to Bombay for the benefit of their health from the military establishment of Fort Saint George, delay, without apparent necessity, their applications for leave to go home on sick certificates, until there is no longer time to obtain an answer from their own government, thereby obliging that of this presidency to extend its sanction to their departure under circumstances, which cannot be here so appropriately determined on, as at Madras.

It is accordingly signified, that in future this government will not be disposed to exercise any extraneous interposition of this description, unless in those special instances in which it may be clearly made to appear, that the officer's application for leave could not reasonably be expected to have been preferred in due time, to the government of the presidency to which he belongs.

By order of the honorable the governor in council,

W. Newnham,
Sec. to govt.

G. O. The superintendent announces to the service, that the honorable the governor in council has been pleased, in terms the most flattering to his feelings, to accept the tender of his resignation of the high and respectable office which he has so long had the honor to fill.

In retiring from his public station it is not without emotions of regret, that the superintendent separates himself from a corps, whose individual welfare, and collective prosperity, it has been the invariable and anxious wish of his heart to promote.—In whatever situation he may hereafter be placed, he will continue to feel the liveliest interests in its success, and will be happy, on all occasions, to demonstrate the sincerity of the sentiments which, as the last act of his official duty, he considers it incumbent on him to express and to record.

Upon the superintendent's resignation, the honorable the governor in

council has deemed it expedient, under existing circumstances, to assume the charge of the duties of his office, and to appoint captain Hamilton, the superintendent's assistant, secretary to government, in the marine department.

In pursuance of this resolution, all applications or reports, which have heretofore been made to the superintendent, or any representations, requiring the decision of the honorable the governor in council, are, after the date hereof, to be addressed to captain Hamilton, under his official designation, he being also, from this period, the ordinary channel of issuing all the orders of government, in the same department.

With respect to points of inferior moment, and of diurnal detail, on which the superintendent and his predecessors have been in the habit of issuing verbal directions—these are, in like manner, to be subject to the orders of the honorable the governor through the secretary in the marine department.

By command of the superintendent,
(Signed) W. J. Hamilton.
Bombay, 30th September, 1810.

Occurrences for October.

Resolutions of Council, dated 5th October.

William Taylor Money, Esq having preferred a request to be permitted to resign the office of superintendent of the marine, in view to circumstances connected with the welfare of his family; the governor in council cannot withhold his acquiescence in an application, in which considerations of so interesting a description are so deeply involved.

After the gratifying experience of the constant attention, the acknowledged ability, and professional attainments that Mr. Money has so uniformly displayed in this responsible department; the governor in council cannot receive, without a correspondent degree of reluctance and concern, that gentleman's resignation, of an office, of which he has during several years continued in a manner as creditable to himself as advantageous to the public to discharge the duties; so as to justify in a manner the most ample that confidence of our honorable employers which led to their unanimous selection of him for the very important trust.

Independently of his professional merits; it is but an act of justice on this occasion to declare, that the variety of other incidental, and in some instances, permanent duties, of not less importance to the interests of the company, (the performance of which the governor in council has had occasion to commit to the superintendence and abilities of Mr. Money), constitutes an equal satisfactory test of the respectability of his qualifications, and the value of his services, such as have also been enhanced by the willingness and alacrity with which this gentleman has at all times undertaken those additional occupations; invariably manifesting, by his conduct in them, that disinterested ardour and devotion for the promotion of the public welfare, which distinguish the character of a highly zealous, and no less meritorious public functionary.

By order of the honorable the governor in council.

F. Warren,
Chief sec. to govt.

Oct. 6th.—In the course of the week eight sailors, a corporal, and three soldiers belonging to his majesty's 24th regiment arrived from Surat. These men had been captured in the Ceylon and Windham, and had been taken by the French to Johanna.

On the arrival of the ships at Johanna, the prisoners were landed and lodged under cover of sails put up in form of tents. They complain of the short allowance the French gave them.

The men above mentioned, together with eight others who remain at Surat, made their escape into the mountains were they lay concealed for about eight days, till the departure of the Frenchmen, which took place on the 20th July. They remained on the island for about six weeks longer, when they took their passage on board an

Arab vessel bound for Surat, where they arrived after a voyage of twenty days.

Oct. 7th.—At a meeting of the Bobbery hunt, on Sunday last, the subscription for the orphan children of that most respected and lamented officer, the late major Samuel Carter, was introduced, when, with a liberality which reflects the highest honour on the members of that society, and which is, indeed, above all praise, upwards of ten thousand rupees were contributed.

Oct. 29th.—At the adjourned sessions, held on Monday last, the court was occupied the whole of the day, in the trial of three natives for a conspiracy to murder G. C. Osborne, Esq. The jury found them all guilty.

A. Taylor, a private in his majesty's 17th light dragoons, was found guilty of a rape on a child of four years of age, and sentenced to be twice publicly whipped, to stand twice in the pillory, with labels expressing his offence, and to be transported to New South Wales for life.

Oct. 30th.—The mail to the northward was robbed last night by a gang of persons on the Parell road; and on the same night, an attack was made on a gentleman belonging to this settlement by a number of persons armed with long poles and swords, who stopped his carriage; but the gentleman aiming a blow at one of them, and calling out to his coachman to drive on, escaped unhurt.

Occurrences for November.

Nov. 3d.—The Transport Lowajee Family arrived at Point de Galle on the 23d ult. with dispatches of importance for the admiral.

Nov. 17th.—On Monday, at a special Sessions of Oyer and Terminer and general gaol delivery, Ragonath Chimah Sinoy Luckmichund Avichuldas, Bugwhan Avichuldas, and Dadajee Gunputjee, all native servants in the treasury, were convicted, on the clearest evidence, of a conspiracy to murder George Cuming Osborne, Esq. the present sub-treasurer; and sentence was passed on the three first for five years imprisonment; during which period they are to be annually exposed in the pillory, twice publicly whipped through the bazar, and each to pay a fine of ten thousand rupees; and to be further imprisoned till the said fine is paid. Judgment on Dadajee Gunputjee was deferred till after a subsequent trial.

On Thursday last, Narron Arzoonjee, a clerk and cash-keeper in the police office was found guilty of conspiring to prevent the trial and conviction of the parties engaged in the above-mentioned conspiracy.

Nov. 24th.—Yesterday the special sessions of oyer and terminer closed with the trial of C. J. Briscoe, esq. which lasted three days. He was indicted for corruptly and wilfully conspiring with others to obstruct and impede the course of justice, by preventing the trial and conviction of certain conspirators to murder Mr. Osborne. The jury found him guilty, but most strongly recommended him to mercy. He was sentenced to be imprisoned in the gaol of Bombay for 12 calendar months.

The following presentment of the grand jury was delivered by the foreman, on the 16th of November, to the honorable the recorder, previously to their being discharged, with a request that it might not be published till the conclusion of the sessions. At their termination yesterday it was read, and ordered to be published in the Bombay papers.

PRESENTMENT OF THE GRAND JURY.

The grand jury, before they separate after a session of unusual importance, and deeply impressed with the dangerous tendency of the criminal acts, which have recently been the subjects of prosecution in this honorable court, and entertaining a just sense of the lamentable consequences that must have resulted from the impunity of crimes so daring, and still more

from these culpable attempts, which, by the result of the late trial, have been proved to have been made to stifle inquiry, at the very moment when the means were afforded of detecting persons concerned in a conspiracy for the purpose of assassination, a crime of which Englishmen entertain universal abhorrence, deem it a duty which they owe to Mr. Osborne, to express, in the most unqualified manner, and with all the efficacy which such expression is capable of deriving from the high nature of their office, their hearty acknowledgments for the constant and unvaried zeal, which has marked every step of his progress, in bringing to light so daring and infamous a conspiracy, a task rendered more arduous from the obstructions which have been opposed to the discovery of truth.

It is not, however, merely on the grounds of the great public advantage gained by the prosecution of the conspirators to conviction, that the jurors are actuated on this occasion, but they farther consider Mr. Osborne entitled to this tribute of thanks, from a sense of the substantial benefit that must result from the effects of his perseverance in that branch of the enquiry, which is now demonstrated by the verdict of the last jury, to have been necessary to vindicate the purity and honor of British magistracy.

On this occasion the grand jurors cannot avoid stating, that the luminous charge, which was delivered to them from the bench on the first day of these sessions, has appeared to them to embrace interests of such high consequence to a British community, that the public good will be the more essentially promoted, the more widely it is promulgated, and are, therefore, solicitous that so ample a record of the duties of jurors and magistrates, should at all times be accessible to those who have an anxious desire faithfully to discharge the important duties confided to them in those high capacities.

It is not, however, their fellow-countrymen alone, who are concerned in a knowledge of the clear exposition of the law, which that address contained: the morals of the natives of every cast and description may, they think, be essentially improved to their benefit, and the general security, by a better acquaintance with those principles, which form the foundation of British jurisprudence.

The grand jurors are therefore desirous that the charge of the honorable the recorder should be given to the world, in the forcible and impressive language of his lordship, as best calculated to produce the good which it was designed to effect; they, therefore, request that his lordship will be pleased to cause it to be made public, and in the most authentic form.

(Signed)

Taylor Money, William Boswell, Torlase Crozier, George Corsellis,—Thomas Turner, John Smith, Charles Shubrick, Julian Skrine, John Williams, Christopher Robert Wren,—George Vandeput Drury, John Stewart, Henry Robert Whitecombe, J. Gathorne Remington, Thomas Hugh Davis, George Lukin, Evan Lloyd, Charles Keys, John Pavin, William Mackintosh, James Calder, Henry Garden, Nicholas Hankey Smith,—John Forbes.

Grand Jury Room,
16th November, 1810.

Occurrences for December.

General Orders.

DEC. 5.—The honourable the governor in council has received with sincere concern, intelligence of the death of captain Samuel Greenwood, of the 2d regiment Native Infantry, and first assistant to the acting resident at Baroda, an officer who has long distinguished himself by his qualifications to render himself useful to the honourable company wherever he might be employed; but particularly in the province of Guzerat, and in the adjoining peninsula of Kattywar and in Kutch, of the local interests of which countries, and of the honourable company as connected therewith, he had successfully acquired an extensive knowledge under the auspices of lieutenant-colonel Walker, the late resident, between whom the

strongest friendship, reflecting credit on both, had subsisted during a series of years.

Dec. 15.—On Monday the institution of an annual fair in honour of the Hindu deity Bhowanee Sunkeraswer, to whom a Pagoda was lately erected, and dedicated by Sunkersett Baboolsett, a respectable Hindu merchant, and in which the Leeng, the appropriate symbols of the god Mahadew, had been brought from the Nerbuddah, was celebrated at his garden on the road to Breach Candy, by the performance of all the due religious ceremonies, at which almost all the principal Hindoos of the place attended.

The Pagoda was splendidly illuminated on the occasion, and numerous shops were erected on the opposite batty fields, and along the garden walls; and the concourse of people who attended the opening of the fair, and the performance of the ceremonies was so great, that it was hardly possible to pass along the road.

December 17, 1810.

By the honourable the governor in council.

It appearing by the public prints, lately received from the Isle of Bourbon, that captain Robert Elliott, of the Military establishment of this presidency, was killed on board his Majesty's frigate Africaine in the action with the Iphigenia and Astrea, French ships, on the 15th of September last, while gallantly performing his duty as an officer, for which he had volunteered his services; the honourable the governor in council, after the expression of his sincere sympathy in the loss of so meritorious an officer, is pleased to direct that, in consequence of the casualty, the following promotions take place in the Native Infantry.

Fifth regiment.

Captain lieutenant Alexander Gibson, to be captain of a company.

Lieutenant Charles William Ellwood, to be captain lieutenant, and ensign Robert Barber, to be lieutenant in succession to captain R. Elliott, deceased,—Date of rank 14th Sept. 1810.

Notice by government.

It having,—more especially in view to the extension, of late years, of the honourable company's territorial acquisitions in this quarter of India, become of the first importance to promote and render general a knowledge of the country languages among the servants of the honourable company, and of all those exercising offices under it; this is to give notice, that the governor in council, proceeding on the basis, and in the spirit of the instructions lately transmitted by the honourable the court of directors in the 115th and 116th paragraphs of their commands of the 17th of January last, (prohibitory of any military officer's attaining under the want of a competent knowledge of the Hindoostanee, any staff-appointment,) has resolved to introduce the observance of a similar preference in appreciating the pretensions of covenanted civil servants, becoming candidates for offices, applicable to this department of the service; which is accordingly published for general information, to the end that none may feel disappointment at what, under the sanction and example of so high an authority, will not fail to be experienced by those who may omit to qualify themselves in the manner which the purport of those orders so decidedly require.

The languages, which it is deemed the most useful for official purposes to possess in this quarter of India, are the Hindoostanee, the Mahratta, Gauzeratty, and the Persian; and from every one on the establishment, it is expected, that a conversancy, and the being able to correspond, in one or more of these dialects, will, in the course of twelve months, from the first of January, 1811, be attained; after which, from the beginning of the year 1812, the want thereof, will not fail to operate to the fullest extent, the eventual exclusions above announced; on the like principles as were promulgated by the supreme government by its notification, under date the 11th of December, 1798; which implies, of course, the claim, of every individual to appeal to an examination by and consequent report of a competent committee, in the event

of any one's considering his pretensions to an attainment in the languages, not to have been sufficiently appreciated; besides which it will rest with government to have recourse to the investigation by such a committee, whenever they may see occasions for it.

Civil servants becoming candidates for judgeships, are also expected to have previously attained to an intimate acquaintance with the laws and regulations enacted by government, for the guidance of its judicial officers in that highly consequential branch of the general administration, and to be ready and willing to submit to an examination of their proficiency therein, whenever government shall deem such preliminary enquiry to be expedient.

An allowance for a Native teacher of thirty rupees per mensem, will be extended to those who may be disposed to avail themselves of this notice for the year ensuing, after which it will be withdrawn.

By order of the honourable the governor in council,

F. Warren,
Chief Sec.

Bombay Castle, 31*st Dec.* 1810.

Occurrences for January, 1811.

Jan. 6th.—The Peishwa, having expressed a desire to see the British troops at this station perform some evolutions, his wish was readily complied with, and his highness having fixed on the first of January, in the afternoon, for this purpose, he arrived at his tents, pitched close to the parade, between one and two o'clock, with a numerous train of attendants.

The brigade was under arms exactly at three o'clock, and about half an hour after, his highness in his palankin came from his tent to the station allotted him in front of the brigade, when the review commenced. According to a previous arrangement, by desire of the Peishwa, the royal salute was not fired till after the troops had marched round in order of review, and his highness retired to his tents, conveniently placed for his viewing the whole field to advantage. The review took place in the following order.

1st. A general salute, both colours dropped.

2d. March round in order of review, colours dropped to the Peishwa—form in line.

3d. A salute of 21 guns from four field-pieces in the centre of the brigade.

4th. Close column on the centre companies of corps.

5th. Column of line on the right corps countermarch; deploy into line.

6th. Hollow square, advance by the front face, square reduced.

7th. Retire by alternate companies; form line.

8th. Open column of march on the centre companies of brigade, form to the front by companies in echellon,

9th. Retire by wings of battalions; form line.

10th. Advance in line; two vollies.

11th. Open rank, advance with music, general salute.

On his highness quitting the ground a little before sunset, a royal salute from the field-pieces concluded the business of the day.

The troops made a fine appearance; the field return stated 2109 present. The movements were beautiful, the wheelings perfect, the distances well preserved, the coverings correct, and the firings close and excellent.

The whole performance eminently displayed the high state of discipline in which the brigade is, and the remark once made by general Floyd, after a review of a crack corps of Native infantry on the Madras establishment, is justly applicable to the Poonah brigade: "It is in a fit state to be presented to either friend or foe."

The following letter was received by lieutenant-colonel Cooke next day, and the subjoined brigade order issued in consequence.

To lieutenant-colonel Cooke, commanding at Poonah.

Sir,

I have been desired by his highness the Peishwa, to assure you of the high gratification he experienced at the ap-

pearance and manœuvres of the brigade yesterday afternoon; and to request that you will yourself do him the favour to accept, and that you will be so obliging as to convey to the officers and men under your command the expression of his best thanks for the pleasure he derived from every part of the review.

I shall have great satisfaction in reporting to the right honourable the governor-general the very flattering sentiments expressed by the Peishwa on this occasion.

I have the honour to be,
Sir,
&c. &c.
(Signed) H. RUSSEL,
Acting Resident.

Camp Poonah, 2d Jan. 1811.

BRIGADE ORDERS.

Parole Bajerow.

"Lieutenant-colonel Cooke has great pleasure in communicating to the Brigade, the entire satisfaction which his highness the Peishwa has been pleased to express at their performance yesterday at the inspection; lieutenant-colonel Cooke feels an increased degree of pleasure in making this communication, from his own sentiments entirely coinciding with those of his highness."

The Peishwa was so much pleased with the band of the 2d battalion 1st regiment, dressed in high style, that after the brigade had marched round, he sent to desire they might come and play near to his tent, which they did during the performance of the manœuvres. His highness retired mounted on an elephant, surrounded by his troops, attendants, and subjects, shouting his praises.

Tents were pitched on the left of the Peishwa's for the accommodation of the ladies.

The gaiety of the scene, which presented state elephants superbly decorated; a string of his highness's carriages constructed after the manner of our coaches, palankins, richly furnished, bodies of horses displaying their activity in all directions, and an immense concourse of people from the city, furnished a spectacle extremely pleasing and gratifying to the beholder.

JAN. 13. His majesty's ship Lion, capt. Heatchcot, arrived yesterday morning from England, which she quitted on the 27th of July, having on board his excellency Mirza Abul Hassan, the Persian envoy to the court of Great Britain, on his return to Persia; accompanied by his excellency Sir Gore Ousely, bart. whom his majesty has been pleased to appoint his ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the sovereign of Persia.

On the signal being made for his majesty's ship Lion, R. T. Goodwin, Esq. the mehmendar appointed to attend the Persian ambassador, proceeded on board; and having consulted his excellency's pleasure as to the period of his excellency's repairing on shore, a deputation, composed of the chief secretary to the government, the commandant of the garrison, the quarter-master-general, Hugh Munro, Esq. of the civil service, the acting superintending engineer, the deputy-adjutant-general, major Baker, captains Sealy and Leckey, and lieutenant Russel, proceeded on board at two o'clock, to invite and escort his excellency on shore, to whom the gentlemen were severally introduced by the mehmendar.

On his excellency's quitting the Lion a royal salute was fired from her, and repeated by the rest of his majesty's ships in the harbour, with their yards manned; the Persian ambassador proceeded to the shore in the honorable the governor's barge, accompanied by the gentlemen of the deputation, with other boats attending with the garrison band, and his excellency's suite; a salute from the saluting battery announced his landing at the New Pier, where his excellency was welcomed by a second deputation, composed of the master-attendant of the marine, the accountant-general, the military-paymaster-general, the custom-master, the physician-general, the governor's military secretary and aid-de-camps, the king's brigade-major, the barrack-master, and the assistant deputy-adjutant and quarter-master-generals. The troops in garrison composing a street from the landing place towards the esplanade, his excel-

lency walked to a carriage that was in waiting to convey him to the mount-house, the residence prepared for his excellency's reception, to which his excellency proceeded, accompanied by the mehmendar,—the deputation that had received his excellency on his landing, and followed by his suite in separate carriages.

On his excellency's arrival at the mount, a third deputation, composed of the provisional commanding officer of the forces, lieutenant-colonel Williamson, the advocate-general, the adjutant-general, the officer commanding his majesty's 17th regiment, the town-major, the commissary of stores, and the deputy-auditor-general, was in waiting to receive his excellency.

After these honors had been paid to this distinguished stranger; the first deputation returned on board his majesty's ship Lion, to attend his majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary on shore, accompanied by the other boats as before. His excellency Sir Gore Ousely, bart. proceeded in the Lion's barge, with the royal standard hoisted, attended by the chief secretary to the government and the quarter-master-general, and the gentlemen of his excellency's family; the captains of his majesty's ships Lion, Caroline, Russel, Chichester and Shaw, Ardasseer, followed each in his own boat; accompanied also by those that had proceeded from the shore; royal salutes were fired on his excellency quitting the Lion from his majesty's ships in the harbour, with their yards manned as before; which was repeated from the garrison on his excellency's landing at the new Pier, whence his excellency proceeded through a street formed by the troops of the garrison, to the government-house; where the honorable the governor received his majesty's ambassador; to whom his excellency was introduced by the chief secretary to the government.

JAN. 19th.—The annual reviews of the corps at this presidency commenced on the 15th instant with his majesty's 47th regiment, whose appearance, steadiness, and correctness of movements, were noticed by major-general Mac-Pherson, in public orders issued the next day.

Bombay Castle, 21st Jan.

GARRISON ORDER.

It is with peculiar satisfaction, that the honourable the governor announces to the army the surrender of the Mauritius on the 3d of December.

Highly gratifying as that event must in itself prove, as comprehending a national advantage of the utmost consequence to the welfare of the united kingdom; it will be, at the same time, the more peculiarly interesting to the officers and soldiers in this quarter of India, from the conquest being achieved under the immediate direction of the honourable general Abercrombie, their commander-in-chief, who has added, by this termination to the French possessions on this side of the Cape, a new title to that public favor, and esteem for himself and his family, which his respected parent had already so well earned on the plains of Egypt.

In enunciation of this glorious intelligence, a royal salute is to be fired immediately, and a feu de joie by the troops this evening. The latter are moreover to receive three days batta on this happy occasion.

Occurrences for February.

FEB. 2d.—On Wednesday his excellency Mirza Abul Hussan, the Persian ambassador to the court of Great Britain, and his excellency Sir Gore Ouseley, Bart. his majesty's ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the king of Persia, embarked on board his majesty's ship the Lion, proceeding to the Gulph of Persia.

The embarkation was attended with similar ceremonies, and similar marks of honor to those which accompanied the landing of their excellencies.

Extract of a letter from Poonbunder, dated February.

A Dow, which arrived from Muscat yesterday, has brought a report of the Jowaslimee or Wahabee tribe being at sea with a force of thirty-five sail of different descriptions, which are said to have taken and plundered a boat under

British colours near to Guratchee, and to have afterwards steered back for the Persian Gulph.

On the Macauley's passage to Bushire, and while off Courjoun, she fell in with four piratical boats of the largest size, who made several unsuccessful attempts, during a perfect calm, to board us; we had little to fear from so few, and easily kept them off. On our return homeward, and while off the island of Bushrop, we again fell in with three of the four abovementioned boats, together with seventeen others, full of men, and elated with their recent successes, having just captured two brigs and five dows belonging to Muscat. We first saw six on the look out, while the remaining fourteen were at anchor between the Island Polia and the main. On their perceiving our approach, they all stood towards us, with the hopes no doubt, of taking us by surprise. We were prepared, and immediately hoisted our colours, and informed them we were English, at the same time warning them not to approach closer, or we should be under the necessity of firing. Paying no attention to this, and commencing with their matchlocks, obliged us to fire on them, notwithstanding which, and the confusion it occasioned in some of their boats, they continued closing with us. Our fire now was close and very effectual, having repulsed them in every attempt to board. Foiled in all their efforts to effect their object of boarding us, a few of the largest, one of which alone carried double the number of men on board the Macauly, made a last and desperate effort to board, but were again repulsed. From this circumstance, together with various informations we have received of their increasing strength, there is every reason to apprehend the greatest danger, unless ships proceeding to the Gulph of Persia are well prepared to resist them.

To the determined exertions of my officers and crew, together with the assistance and gallant behaviour of lieutenant Pedlar of the 9th regiment Native infantry, I am greatly indebted: indeed, the conduct of every man on board surpassed my warmest expectations.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND *Occurrences for* FEBRUARY, 1810.

The Penang gazette of the 17th February, presents the following particulars of a dreadful conflagration at Rangoon.

"This most disastrous event took place about two o'clock, on the morning of the 13th ultimo; and, as it is reported, commenced at an arrack shop situated in the centre of the town, kept by one Van Hart. The flame having communicated to some casks of liquor, they burst, and spread their destructive influence through the streets adjacent. The houses, nearly seven thousand in number, being built entirely of wood, immediately caught fire, and were shortly after in one continued blaze. The whole of the buildings, public or private, with the exception of the following, were destroyed: viz. the Portuguese church, Round Eye, Ryboun's House, Minister's House, Agaza's House, and Mr. Taylor's house.

"The bridges and walls, the latter built of keel and mast pieces to the height of 26 or 30 feet, are completely burnt; and it is the determination of the Burmah government, not to allow any timber to be exported, until the town is rebuilt.

"Several Burmahs, and one Armenian, were destroyed by the falling in of houses. In consequence of the destruction of Rangoon, every thing was in great demand."

Captain Canning, the British envoy to the court of Ava, had set out from Rangoon, on the 20th of December, on his journey towards the capital. Subsequent to his departure, no advices have been received from him.

A Burmah army of thirty thousand men, had invaded and taken the Island

Junk Ceylon, and sent all the inhabitants in slavery to Pegu. The Siamese were collecting a force, for the purpose of attempting the recapture of this possession.

Occurrences for March.

March 17.—On Tuesday night, about twelve o'clock, a banditti of between twenty and thirty Chinese, entered the house of a Malay woman at Soonghy Penang; after carrying off a chest containing some articles of value, they severely wounded the inhabitants, consisting of three women and a young female child. The mother of the child, who was the mistress of the house, died yesterday morning; the lives of the others are despaired of.

March 24. — Late on Tuesday night, the ship Bengal Anna, captain Thomas Scott, anchored in the harbour from Calcutta, having on board the honourable C. A. Bruce, as governor; honourable Mrs. Bruce, and two children; Mrs. Scott and three children; Major Yule, J. C. Lawrence, esq. civil service, captain M'Innes, 20th regiment, and lieutenant M'Donald, Bombay establishment.

At sunrise, on Wednesday, the Anna saluted the fort, which was returned.

At seven o'clock, the honourable Mr. Bruce landed under the appropriate honours, and was received at the wharf by the honourable the governor and members of council, who accompanied him through a street, formed by the military, to the government house.

At ten o'clock, the honourable Mr. Bruce took the usual oaths and his seat as governor, and colonel Macalister was sworn in as second, and W. E. Phillips, Esq. third, and last member of council, under the customary salutes.

The following proclamation was published, by order of the honourable the governor and council.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas the honourable the court of directors have been pleased to direct that a civil servant of the establishment of Bengal, should be appointed governor of this presidency, and the right honourable the governor-general in council, having under that authority, nominated the honourable Charles Andrew Bruce, to the office, the arrival of that gentleman, at this island, and his having taken the prescribed oaths and charge of the government, is announced.

All persons, in the honourable company's civil, military, and marine service, and all the other inhabitants of Prince of Wales's Island, and its dependencies, are therefore directed to take due notice thereof, and to obey the said honourable Charles Andrew Bruce, accordingly.

The honourable the court of directors, having also appointed colonel Norman Macalister, to be second member of council, and commandant of the forces, and William Edward Phillips, Esq. third and last member of council, those gentlemen have this day taken the prescribed oaths, and their seats accordingly.

Published by order of the honourable governor and council.

Thos. Raffles,
Sec. to Govt.

Fort Cornwallis, March 21, 1810.

The honourable the governor has been pleased to appoint Captain Weston his aid-de-camp.

Occurrences for May.

May 26th.—Last Thursday night, Ameen the Chinese, under sentence of death for murder, put a period to his existence, by suspending himself with a cord to a nail in the wall of his cell.

The coroner's inquest sat on the body yesterday morning, and brought in a verdict of *felo de se.*

Act of Grace.

Sir E. Stanley gave notice, that he would proceed, on Monday next, being the anniversary of the birth-day of his most gracious majesty, king George the IIId. to take into consideration such petitions as shall be presented to the court by the insolvent debtors, now in actual custody, in the gaol, for any

sum or sums of money, and whose debts do not respectively amount to a larger sum than four hundred Spanish dollars, and to discharge and release their persons from further imprisonment, upon their surrendering all their property, real and personal, to their creditors, towards satisfaction of their debts upon oath, and executing an assignment thereof, pursuant to the provisions of the act of the 32d of Geo. 2d. chap. 28, commonly called the Lord's act, entitled, an act for the relief of insolvent debtors, as to the imprisonment of their persons, and of other acts, and upon their complying with the terms of the said acts, of which the creditors of the respective prisoners and all other persons concerned, are to take notice, and to attend accordingly.

JOHN HEWITT,
Registrar.

Court-house, George Town, this 30th day of May, 1810.

Occurrences for June.

JUNE 9th.—The honourable the governor on Monday last, in commemoration of the anniversary of our sovereign George the third's birth-day, entertained a very large party of ladies and gentlemen, at the government-house.

The festivities of the day began at sunrise, by a salute of seventy-two guns, corresponding with the king's age, fired from the walls of the garrison, accompanied by a royal salute from the several Portuguese ships in the harbour, who beside this mark of respect, had the British ensign flying at the fore, their national flag at the main, and the Spanish at the mizen all day.

His majesty's ships Caroline, Piedmontaise, Blanche, and Barracoutta, saluted at one o'clock; the day shut in with another royal salute from the Portuguese ships.

An act of liberality on the part of a respectable native merchant of this place, Taun Koo Syyd Hussain, does very great credit to his character, and deserves to be known.

Understanding that his most gracious majesty had entered upon his 73d year, and wishing, on that auspicious day, to evince his gratitude to the government under which he had lived for many years, he ordered a sum of above 6000 Spanish dollars, upwards of 1,500l. sterling, to be paid towards the liquidation of the debts of the several prisoners then in gaol on executions. The sum was sufficient to discharge the whole, as well those from the court of judicature, as from the small-debt court.

It was extremely pleasing to an humane mind, to observe the gratitude shewn by the debtors (some of whom had been imprisoned for small sums for several years) on their unexpected enlargement. They all proceeded in a body to return thanks to their benefactor, most of them accompanied by their wives and children, to the number of about fifty-five persons.

In a place where there is so frequent occasion to animadvert on the extreme profligacy and vicious habits of the natives, it gives real pleasure to reverse the picture, and to mention an act performed by a native, which reflects the highest honor on human nature, namely, that of relieving, from motives of compassion, the misfortunes and distresses of our fellow creatures.

JUNE 23.—Mr. W. A. Clubley, to act as Secretary to government, during the absence of Mr. Raffles.

On Thursday his majesty's ship Samarang, Richard Spencer, Esq. arrived from the Moluccas, last from Malacca, filled with spices, which she took on board at Pulo Oby.

Yesterday his majesty's ship Cornwallis, W. A. Montague, Esq. and a prize Dutch brig, arrived also from the Moluccas.

On anchoring, the usual salutes were exchanged.

Captain Montague landed a short while before sun-set, under the salute due to his rank.

JUNE 30th.—By the arrival of the Thainstone, captain Tait, on Monday last, from the eastward, a particular account is received of the misadventure which occurred to the long boat belonging to that ship.

The Thainstone having arrived at

Sunghy Jubboose, on the island of Banca, was trading there, and having agreed for a quantity of tin, a part of which had been received on board and paid for, the long boat, according to agreement with the head people, was proceeding on shore the next day with funds for the remainder.

Captain Tait was to have gone on shore at the same time with the long boat, but the Montrose heaving in sight the night before, and under apprehension of her being a privateer, he deferred leaving the vessel, until it was well ascertained what the strange sail was.

From every information it appeared, that a plan had been laid to cut off the boats a the mouth of the river. On captain Tait going into the river about eight o'clock in the morning, a small canoe, with two people, met the boat, enquired if the vessel which had arrived was of war; and brought a message for him to proceed to the rajah in one of the four boats; he having no suspicion of their intention, continued to pull towards them, when within hail, they desired him to proceed on board again, as he would not be allowed to land; that the long boat would be on board with tin on the flood making, and that the rajah meant to pay him a visit on board the ship in the afternoon. Captain Tait returned on board but saw neither the boat nor rajah. Next morning, on the Montrose's boat landing, the people in the four boats surrounded her, and threatened to put the crew to death, but spared them, in consequence of the Nacoda's age.

The people sent off a message to Captain Tait that he might proceed for Penang, as they had taken his boat and people, which they would not deliver up. Captain Tait afterwards went to Mintou, in company with the Montrose, and Kadree (which had arrived in the interim) to complain of the rajah's conduct to the head man there, who promised to use his interest to get back the people, boat, and property, if possible—the boat was afterwards delivered to captain Williamson, who left her at Lingin, with a letter, stating, that the people had been all killed, and the person who headed the plot had absconded with the property.

Occurrences for November.

Nov. 15.—A most barbarous murder was lately perpetrated at Penang, on the person of Dr. Elmes, many years resident at that settlement.

Prompted by the hope of plunder, a party of Chinamen, to the number of forty, entered the house of the deceased; who, whilst in the act of deprecating their fury, was cruelly butchered. The assassins had effected their escape; but as the most active measures have been taken for their apprehension, it was hoped they would speedily atone for their crimes.

Occurrences for December.

PROCLAMATION.

Fort Cornwallis, 28th day of December.

In consequence of the much-lamented death of the honorable Charles Andrew Bruce, late governor of Prince of Wales's Island and its dependencies, and commander in chief of the fort and town, and the absence of colonel Norman Macalister, second member of council, and next in succession to the office of government, vacant by this event,

Public notice is hereby given, and it is proclaimed, the powers of governor of Prince of Wales's, and the command of the fort and town, has necessarily devolved pro-tempore on William Edward Phillips, esq. third member of the council; and that the said Wm. Edward Phillips, esq. has this day duly taken the prescribed oaths and seat accordingly.

It is also hereby further proclaimed, that John James Erskine, esq. has, in conformity to the provisional appointment of the honourable the court of directors, been called in to the board, and has taken the prescribed oaths and his seat as a member of council.

All persons in the civil, military, and marine service, of the honourable East India company, and all the other inhabitants of Prince of Wales's Island,

and its dependencies, are therefore hereby required and directed to take due notice thereof, and to obey the said William Edward Phillips, esq. as governor and commander in chief accordingly pro-tempore

Published by command of the honorable the governor in council.

W. A. CLUBLEY,
Act. Sec. to Govt.

Occurrences for January.

JAN. 11.—At a general meeting of the European inhabitants of this presidency, convened by the high sheriff, and held this day at the court-house, pursuant to the notification published in the government gazette of the 5th instant, for the purpose as therein is stated, of taking into consideration,

"The best mode of evincing, by some public act, the deep regret felt by the settlement, for the loss it has sustained by the death of the late honorable Charles Andrew Bruce."

The sheriff having opened the meeting, G. Caunter, esq. was elected to preside as chairman, who then in a short and appropriate speech, explained the object proposed to be accomplished by this meeting, and moved the following resolutions, which were agreed to by the meeting.

First resolved, that the British inhabitants who compose this meeting, being fully sensible of the blessings which they, with the other inhabitants of this island, enjoyed, during the period the late honorable Charles Andrew Bruce was at the head of this government; whose conduct was marked by honor and integrity towards his honorable employers, zeal, and solicitude for the general welfare and interests of the island; and by justice, benevolence, hospitality, and a suavity of manners to all:—and desirous of bearing testimony to his worth and merit by some tribute of public approbation, calculated to perpetuate the same to posterity, do therefore propose to erect a mausoleum over the grave in which his body was interred, with an appropriate inscription, stating by whom, and on what account, it had been erected.

Second, resolved, that a subscription be immediately opened, for the purpose of defraying the expence of erecting the said building.

Third, resolved, that five persons, with the chairman, be selected from the present meeting, to act as a committee for carrying the first resolution into effect, who, for that purpose, will be authorised to receive such sums as may be subscribed.

Fourth, resolved, that the said committee shall, with all convenient dispatch, fix upon a plan of the building intended to be erected, and also to draw out an appropriate inscription for a stone to be placed thereon, for the purpose of being submitted for the approval of the subscribers at a future period.

Fifth, resolved, that a copy of these resolutions, accompanied by a respectful letter of condolence, to be signed by the committee, be transmitted to the honourable Mrs. Bruce, by the first convenient opportunity, and that the committee, when chosen, be directed to retire, and prepare a suitable letter for that purpose, to be submitted to this meeting for approval.

Sixth, resolved, that the following gentlemen, with the chairman, form the committee, viz. John Hall, Thomas Halyburton, William Stuart, J. Dunbar, and Thomas M'Gee, esqrs.

The committee retired, and prepared a letter to the honourable Mrs. Bruce, which was read and submitted to the meeting by the chairman, and met its unanimous approbation.

It was then resolved, that the thanks of this meeting be given to the sheriff, for the promptitude with which he convened the meeting; and to the chairman, for his conduct in the chair.

(Signed) GEO. CAUNTER.

Ceylon *Occurrences for* February, 1810.

Govt. Gazette,—Wednesday Feb. 7, 1810.

Head quarters, Mount Lavinia: Feb. 6th, 1810.

G.O. His majesty has been graciously pleased to make the following promotions in the royal artillery.

1st lieutenant Samuel Rudyerd to be captain—Date 4th March, 1809.

1st lieutenant John S. Byers to be captain—Date 20th June 1809.

Lieutenant-general Maitland directs the detachment of artillery, landed from the coast under the command of captain Bates, be struck off all duty on Wednesday the 14th instant, and requests the commandant of Colombo will forward on that day towards them the order laid down towards the 19th regiment in the concluding paragraph of the general orders of the 2d instant.

He is happy in reflecting that this detachment has maintained during its absence the character which on all occasions has uniformly attached to that high and respectable branch of his majesty's service—and he requests captain Bates will signify to the officers and men lately under his command, the lieutenant-general's entire approbation of their conduct during their absence, as reported to him—He requests too that captain Bates will receive his personal acknowledgments for the zeal and propriety with which he has uniformly conducted himself, as well on the present as on a former occasion.

Lieutenant-general Maitland directs that captain Bates do immediately proceed to Trincomalee to take the command of the detachment of artillery in that district.

By the lieut.-gen's. command,
(Signed) Robt. Mc'Nab.
Acting dep. adj. gen.

Occurrences for April.

April 5th.—On Tuesday morning, at Back Bay, Trincomalee was launched by A. Gibbons, esq. a fine new cutter, copper- bottomed, about 38 tons burden, and called the Admiral Drury.

Head Quarters, Bentotte, April 21st, 1810.

The general court martial, of which lieut.-colonel the honorable P. Stuart, of the 19th regiment, was president, is approved of and dissolved.

"CRIME.

"John Gould, private soldier in his majesty's 19th regiment of infantry, charged with the crime of mutiny in the following instance, viz. For loading a musket with ball cartridge, and on or about the 31st of March last, firing it through the window of the room in which he was confined as a prisoner, at Point de Galle, apparently, with the intention of killing serjeant Somerset of the 19th regiment, and which ball did actually slightly wound the corporal of the guard, when in the positive execution of his duty, and which ball further did seriously wound Robert Welch, the sentry, under whose charge the said John Gould was then confined.

"SENTENCE.

"The court having duly considered the acknowledgment made by the prisoner John Gould, and maturely weighed the evidence adduced in support of the whole of the charge exhibited against him, as well as that which he has alleged in his defence, is of opinion, that he is guilty in breach of the articles of war, and the court does therefore sentence him, the said John Gould, to suffer death, in such a manner, and at such time and place, as the commander of the forces may think fit."

(Signed) P. Stuart,
Lieut.-col. 19th regt. President.
(Signed) Robt. Mc'Nab,
Dep. judge adv.

I approve.
(Signed) T. Maitland,
Lieutenant-general.

This is the first instance, since lieutenant-general Maitland has assumed the command of his majesty's troops

in this island, where a British European soldier, belonging immediately to the establishment of the island, has been sentenced by a general court martial to suffer death.

He has considered the whole of the case, with the most anxious attention and solicitude, with a view to satisfy himself how far any alleviating circumstance has occurred, that could admit of his either, with propriety, mitigating the punishment, or pardoning this unfortunate man. But he is sorry to say, that on a thorough review of the whole of the subject, and every point connected with it, he feels it a painful but bounden duty he owes to his sovereign and the service, to which he has the honor to belong, to direct the sentence to be carried into effect, between the hours of six and ten in the morning of Monday, the 23d instant, under orders transmitted to the commandant of Colombo to that effect.

Lieutenant-general Maitland further directs, that James Elliott, private in his majesty's 19th regiment, now in confinement, and who, there is the strongest reason to believe, was a party to the above transaction, though it was impossible to procure sufficient legal evidence to convict him, be kept in close confinement, till there is a fitting opportunity to send him off this island, with those marks of infamy and disgrace, which naturally attach to his character and conduct.

By the lieutenant-general's command.

(Signed.) Robt. Mc'Nab,
Acting dep. adj.-general.

Government Advertisement.

May 9th.—Whereas the various abuses which have recently taken place within the fort of Colombo, in consequence of a total relaxation of the wise measures adopted under the late Dutch government for the due maintenance of a well regulated and efficient police, render it absolutely necessary on the part of his excellency the governor to establish a legislative regulation upon this subject, and whereas antecedent to such regulation being completed, it is essential that regular registers should be established with a view to ascertain the number and description of persons inhabiting the said fort, Public notice is hereby given, that books of registry will be opened at the town-major's office on Monday next, the 14th instant, and continue open daily between the hours of ten and two, till the Monday ensuing, before which period all persons, whether householders or renters of houses, are ordered and commanded to register themselves, their families, servants, lodgers, and inmates, of every description, in form and manner laid down by government in the said books of registry— under pain of forfeiting the penalty which will hereafter be laid down for the evasion of any of the enactments of the said legislative regulation.

In the same view the town-major will forthwith direct that all houses in the fort, in all the different streets and lanes, be numbered in chalk, and the proprietors or renters thereof are directed, before Monday next, to have the said number painted and put upon their different houses, in form and place laid down in a memorandum now left open for public inspection at the said town major's office.

Colombo, May 9th. 1810.

By his excellency's command,
(Signed) Thomas Eden.
Dep. sec. to govt.

Head quarters, Galle, 23d November, 1810.

G. O. Lieutenant-general Maitland has been pleased to make the following appointment until his majesty's pleasure be known.

Staff.

Colonel John Wilson, of the 4th Ceylon regiment, to be brigadier-general for Ceylon only.

By the lieut.-gen.'s command,
(Signed) Clemt. M. Edwards,
Dep. adj. gen.

Head Quarters, Mount Lavinia, Nov. 28th, 1810.

G. O. Lieutenant-general Maitland requests that the commander of Colombo will give directions that the royal standard be hoisted at nine o'clock to morrow, and a royal salute fired, on his majesty's commission

appointing brigadier-general Wilson, under circumstances therein stated, to be lieutenant-governor of his majesty's possessions in the island of Ceylon, being read and recorded in his Majesty's council.

He will further be pleased to direct the usual salute to be fired on brigadier-general Wilson being sworn of his majesty's council, and taking his seat at the board.

By the lieut.-gen.'s command,
In the absence of the dep. adj. general,
(Signed) ROBT. MC NAB
Military secretary.

At a council held at Colombo this twenty-ninth day of November, 1810,

Present,
HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR.
THE HON. THE CHIEF JUSTICE.
THE HON. JOHN RODNEY.
ALEXANDER WOOD, ESQ.
ROBERT BOYD, ESQ.

Minute by his excellency the governor.

His excellency the governor deems it fitting and expedient to communicate to the civil servants of this establishment, that he has been under the painful necessity, after consulting with his medical advisers, of coming to the determination of proceeding to sea, by the first convenient opportunity, to try the effects of a long voyage, with a view to the recovery of his health.

This necessity would, under any other circumstances, have been a matter of deep regret to him both as a public and a private man, but he had no choice left, when he had ascertained that he neither could administer the government confided to his charge by his sovereign, with further advantage to the crown, or of comfort to himself, from the unfortunate state of his health, except that of determining to try the benefit to be derived from the above experiment.

The dispatches, however, his excellency has received by the Batavia, have set his mind perfectly at rest on the only point on which he had any strong feeling, and the nomination by his gracious sovereign of brigadier-general Wilson to succeed him in the government of this island, during his absence, has at once convinced him such absence will be attended with no public loss, and with but little public inconvenience.

That distinguished and valuable officer is not only perfectly and intimately acquainted, from his late mission to England, with the views of his majesty's late government in regard to this island, but he is also perfectly aware of all his excellency's objects and plans in respect to it, and is so thoroughly himself acquainted with, and known by, the individuals forming his majesty's establishment here, that his excellency cannot entertain a doubt, at the same time the government is carried on with energy and efficiency, as far as relates to the public interests, it will be equally attended with the benefit of that general tranquillity, harmony, and good understanding, which can alone secure the interests of the crown, and the comfort of the individuals conducting the different departments under government.

The brigadier-general's commission, under the sign-manual, his excellency has directed, should this day be promulgated by proclamation for general information, and he has further only to add, that, though his resolution was taken antecedent to the arrivals of those instructions, yet he is now acting under the distinct and most gracious orders of his majesty, who has been pleased to grant him specific permission to absent himself from his government, for the space of one twelvemonth, to proceed to sea, in the event of its being requisite, for the recovery or benefit of his health.

This day, brigadier-general Wilson was, by his exellency's command, sworn of his majesty's council on this island, and took his seat at the board accordingly.

By order of the council.
(Signed) JAMES GAY,
Act. Sec. to the council.
By his excellency's command,
(Signed) J. RODNEY,
Chief Sec. to govt.

PROCLAMATION.

By his excellency the right honourable Thomas Maitland, lieutenant-gene-

ral, governor, and commander-in-chief in and over the British settlements in the island of Ceylon, and the dependencies thereof, and vice-admiral of the same.

His excellency the governor in council directs the following commission, under his majesty's sign manual, to be published and promulgated for the information of all persons concerned.

GEORGE R.

George the third, by the grace of God, of the united kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland, king, defender of the faith.

To our trusty and well-beloved John Wilson, Esq. we, reposing especial trust and confidence in your loyalty and ability, do by these presents constitute and appoint you to be lieutenant-governor of our settlements in the island of Ceylon, in the Indian seas, in case of the death, or during the absence only from the said island of our right trusty and well-beloved Thomas Maitland, Esq. our present governor thereof, to have, hold, exercise, and enjoy the said place and office, in case of the death, or during such absence of the said governor, with all rights, privileges, profits, perquisites and advantages to the same belonging or appertaining, and further in case of the death, or during the absence only of the said governor of our said settlements in the island of Ceylon. We do hereby authorize and require you to exercise and perform all and singular the powers and directions contained in our commission to the said Thomas Maitland as governor and commander-in-chief of our said settlements, and to execute such orders and instructions as have been issued by us to our said governor, and such further directions as you shall hereafter receive from us; and we do hereby command all and singular our officers, ministers, and loving subjects in our said settlements, and all others whom it may concern, to take due notice hereof, and to give their ready obedience accordingly.

Given at our court at St. James's, the fifth day of June, 1810, in the fiftieth year of our reign.

By his majesty's command,
(Signed) LIVERPOOL.

John Wilson, Esq. lieutenant-governor of the settlements in the island of Ceylon, in case of the death, or during the absence of the governor only.

By order of the council.
(Signed) J. GAY,
Act. Sec. to the council.

By his excellency's command,
(Signed) J. RODNEY,
Chief Sec. to govt.

CHINA *Occurrences for* 1810.

In the course of the forenoon of the 19th January, while the ship Olivia was lying at anchor in the Macao Roads, there had been two compradore boats, with fruit, vegetables, &c. alongside, the whole of which being purchased they returned to the shore. At noon, three boats of the same description were observed standing towards the vessel, with a light air:--at this time the people on board were all employed shifting cargo, and trimming ship between decks, a sentinel and a seacunnie only remaining on deck. When the boats were within a quarter of a mile distance, captain Stewart happened luckily to go on deck, having no suspicion of their being Ladrones. Shortly after, the nearest boat commenced pulling, at least from 20 to 30 oars, directly for the Olivia. Captain Stewart then was alarmed, and ordered his people to their quarters: those in the boat, on seeing this lay upon their oars, and hailed the ship to know if she wanted a compradore. At this time it was plainly perceived she was full of armed men; however observing that the crew were on their guard, and being informed they would not be permitted to approach the ship, rowed once round her, at the distance of a cable's length, taking particular notice of the guns, which were kept

to bear upon them, as well as they could be directed: one man in the boat had apparently a new spy-glass, with which he seemed to view the ship minutely. Three junks were now seen standing out of the Typa, after whom the boats gave chase; and in the course of an hour, at the distance of a league from the Olivia, after a smart action, captured them; they then stood away with their prizes to the eastward, as was supposed, to join their consorts, thirteen sail of which were then in sight in the N. E. quarter.

Macao, April 11th, 1810.

There is not, at this moment, a single vessel of any description at Whampoa;--- a circumstance which has not occurred before for many years. It would be fortunate, should there be no arrivals for three or four months to come; as, in that case the stock of opium and cotton now on hand would be sold. By constant arrivals, our market is kept fluctuating, and the Chinese have less confidence in their purchasers.

Opium has declined to from 1060 to 1000 dollars per chest.

A proclamation has been issued at Canton, commanding all the nations of the earth to import rice into the Chinese empire. Copies of this proclamation have been sent round to Bengal. It establishes certain regulations with respect to the delivery, and specifies the price which the importers may expect to receive; but it does not guarantee that price.

The terms, on which the late arrangement with two of the principal Ladrone chieftains had been concluded, do not appear to have been remarkably honourable to the celestial dynasty, nor very well calculated to secure the permanent tranquillity of the empire. Both squadrons had indeed been ostensibly surrendered to the government of Canton;—but it was stipulated, again, that the Ladrones should not be dispossessed of their vessels, but that their commander, Coke Fo Foy, should become forthwith the admiral in chief of the Chinese fleets, and should direct their operations against the other Ladrones, who still persevered in rebellion.

In consequence of the alarm excited, by the great strength, and the growing spirit of enterprize, displayed by the Ladrones previous to this adjustment, it appears, that the Portuguese government at Macao had become doubtful of their own security, and had applied for a reinforcement of troops to their neighbours at Manilla. A Spanish detachment was embarked accordingly, and arrived at Macao in the Portuguese ship Diana, on the 10th of March.

BENGAL GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATIONS.

General Orders, by his Excellency the Vice-President in Council.

Fort William, Jan. 2, 1810.

The vice-president in council, having observed that the true intent and meaning of regulation III. 1809, published in general orders of the 8th of July, 1809, have, in some instances, been misunderstood; his excellency in council deems it proper to declare, that the powers vested in commanding officers of military cantonments by the provisions of that regulation, are confined to matters of police, or, in other words, to the maintenance of the public peace, and the apprehension of persons committing criminal offences; and that it was not intended by the regulation in question, to invest the commanding officers with any power or authority in civil cases, that is, the right to land, houses, or personal property of any description in the cantonments; nor to make the slightest deviation in the system, already established for the collection of any authorized rents, taxes, or duties, by the collectors of the land revenue or customs.

J. Adam,
Sec. to govt. mil. dept.

General Orders, by his Excellency the Vice-President in Council.

Fort William, Jan. 2, 1810.

The vice-president in council is pleased to direct, that in addition to the rules and regulations established by government, under date the 15th August, 1805, for victualing, and for preserving the health, discipline, and efficiency of European and native troops, embarking from this presidency; the following regulations shall have effect from the 1st instant:

1. That whenever any embarkation of European or native troops shall be ordered from this presidency, the marine board be required, under the authority of government, on receiving a report of the numbers, cast, &c. intended for embarkation, to make an allotment of the troops and followers to a ship or ships; which having done, the marine board is then to allot specifically, by instructions to the captain or master of each ship or vessel, the situation and space which is to be assigned for the use of the troops, on their ships or vessels respectively.

2. That a copy of those directions and arrangements, on being received by government, be forwarded from the military department to the commander-in-chief, or in his absence to the officer commanding at the presidency station, who will cause copies of the distribution and allotment of accommodation, to be furnished to the senior military officer, proceeding on the ship or ships respectively.

3. On the troops proceeding to embark, they are to be accompanied by a staff officer from the presidency, such staff officer as can best be spared at the time, being selected for this special service. It will be the duty of the staff officer to visit personally, every ship on which the troops may be embarked, and to see the accommodation occupied by the troops according to the distribution which shall have been previously made under the authority of government, with copies of which he is to be furnished to remain at the place of anchorage until the ship or ships shall be finally dispatched; and to collect written reports from the senior military officer on each ship, stating the accommodation and arrangement made on board of each, for the births, and cooking places of the troops.

4. From these reports and his own personal inspection, a general report is to be submitted on his return to Calcutta, through the officer commanding at the presidency, for the information of the commander-in-chief and of government.

5. The reports by the senior military officers on ships respectively, are also to detail generally, the description and quantities of provisions and of water actually on board each ship for the use of the troops; and the situation in which these articles have been stowed; a direction on which head is also to form part of the instructions to be furnished to captains or masters of ships by the marine board.

These rules are to be invariably attended to, and carried into effect on every occasion of the embarkation of troops, European or native, from this presidency, however

limited may be the number of troops ordered to embark.

J ADAM,
Sec. to govt. mil. dept.

Fort William, Feb. 20, 1810.

His excellency the vice-president in council, is pleased to determine, that twenty-five elephants, and eighty-two camels, be immediately added to the present establishment of army cattle, to provide for the public service of the commander-in-chief, general staff, and the augmented corps of horse artillery, agreeably to the following calculation, viz.

ELEPHANTS.

Required for the revised proportion of camp equipage for the commander-in-chief, and general staff,	40
Ditto for the corps of horse artillery,	12
	52
Deduct, allowed in the present proportion for the former,	25
Ditto for the latter,	2
	27
Addition,	25

CAMELS.

Required for the revised proportion of camp equipage for the commander-in-chief, and general staff, (for which no camels are allowed in the existing proportion,)	80
Deduct for the carriages for six paals, (two per troop) for the gun lascars of horse artillery,	2
Addition,	82

J. ADAM,
Sec. to govt. mil. dept,

Fort William, Dec. 29, 1810.

The honourable the court of directors having directed this government to regulate its proceedings in cases of application for admission to the benefits of lord Clive's fund, by the orders contained in the following paragraphs of a letter from the honourable court to the governor in council of fort St. George, dated 7th September, 1808; those paragraphs are published for general information, and his lordship in council notifies, that no claim to the benefit of the fund will be admitted hereafter, except under the conditions specified in those orders.

112. "The reference you have made to us upon this point, requires that we should advert to the general design and present state of lord Clive's fund.

113. "From the whole tenor and scope of the deed entered into between the company and his lordship in the year 1770, it appears that the benefit of the fund was intended solely for European officers and soldiers, and their widows, resident in Great Britain or Ireland. The company are therefore not warranted to admit any persons resident in India, as pensioners on that fund."

114. "Moreover, the admissions to the benefit of the fund in England, have become gradually far more numerous than the income of the fund can provide for, and the company are therefore subjected to a large annual disbursement out of their own assets, for completing the payment of pensions granted upon lord Clive's fund. Hence it follows, that whatever payments have been made in India, to disabled soldiers or their widows, have, in fact, been from the bounty of the company themselves, and not at the expense of the fund. And as there is no prospect that the fund will ever become adequate to the English charge now upon it, the question to be considered properly, is, whether the company themselves shall pension invalid soldiers and their wives, in India, upon the same conditions as the deed establishing lord Clive's fund, has required. And we have no hesitation to determine this question in the negative; we mean not to say that an invalid European shall in no case receive any support from the company in India, but that we cannot form a general system, or establishment, like that of lord Clive's fund, as a provision for European invalids or their wives in India. And we must desire that this explanation may regulate your future conduct in relation to the present subject."

115. "If the question had been merely whether the native widows of European soldiers should benefit by the fund as well as European widows, we should have, from the general reason for forming such an establishment, answered in the affirmative; but even then, the extension of such an allowance to all native widows, would have carried the application of the principle to a degree that would have required farther consideration; but our present determination upon the subject generally supercedes this subordinate question."

J. ADAM,
Sec. to govt. mil. dept.

Fort William, Jan. 19, 1811.

The right honourable the governor-general in council is pleased to direct, that the following paragraph of a general letter from the honourable the court of directors, dated the 31st of August, 1810, and of the additional articles of war therein referred to, be published in general orders.

PAR. 2. An act of parliament having been passed in the last session, authorizing and directing, that at all courts martial, the members should be sworn, and the witnesses examined upon oath; and his majesty having been pleased, under the authority conveyed by that act, to frame additional articles of war, for the better government of our forces, we transmit in the packet a

correct copy of the said articles for your information and guidance.

G. R.

Additional articles of war, for the better government of the officers and soldiers in the service of the united company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies.

Section 12.

Administration of Justice.

Art. 1st. President of courts martial, other than general courts martial, to administer oaths to members.

In all trials by any courts martial, (other than general courts martial) the person appointed to be president thereof, shall administer to each of the other members thereof, the following oaths :

Oaths.—"You shall well and truly try and determine according to your evidence, the matter now before you,—so help you God."

I, A. B. do swear, that I will duly administer justice according to the rules and articles for the better government of the officers and soldiers in the service of the united company of merchants of England, trading to the East Indies, and according to an act of parliament now in force for the punishment of mutiny and desertion of officers and soldiers in the service of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, or at the island of St. Helena, without partiality, favour, or affection; and if any doubt shall arise which is not explained by the said articles or act of parliament, according to my conscience, the best of my understanding, and the custom of war in like cases, "so help me God;" and as soon as the said oaths shall have been administered by the president to the other members, (appointment of president) any one of the said members shall administer the said oaths to the president, and the president of every court martial, other than a general court martial, (not being under the rank of a captain) shall be appointed by the commanding officer of the regiment, detachment, or brigade, or the governor or commander of the garrison, fort, castle, or barrack, directing such court martial.

Art. 20.—Evidence to be given on oath.

All persons who give evidence before any general or other court martial, are to be examined upon oath.

(Signed) G. R.

J. Adam,

Sec. to govt. mil. dept.

The right honourable the governor-general in council having been pleased to establish a general tariff for all indigo, at the rate of pagodas two hundred and four, fanams twenty-six, and cash fifteen 204 26 15 per candy; and to resolve and direct, that a duty of five per cent. be levied on the transit, or exportation, of that article, according to the above valuation, notice is hereby given, that these resolutions will be carried into effect from and after the 1st of the ensuing month.

By order of the president and members of the board of trade.

J. Gwatkin,

Fort St. George, Acting sec.

April 17, 1810.

Fort St. George, April 21, 1810.

The right honourable the governor-general in council, with a view to improve the present mode of medical treatment of horses in the cavalry on this establishment, is pleased to direct, that an institution, to be denominated the Madras Veterinary Establishment, shall be formed at the presidency, under the immediate direction of his excellency the commander-in-chief, for the purpose of educating and instructing, in the veterinary art, a number of boys, not exceeding 48, who will ultimately be posted to regiments of cavalry, with the rank and pay of European farriers.

The right honourable the governor-general in council is pleased to appoint Mr. Joseph Erratt to be a veterinary surgeon upon this establishment, on the pay of 45 star pagodas per month, and the half batta, and other allowances of a cornet of cavalry, from this date, to appoint him to the medical charge of the honourable the governor's body-guard, and the superintendance of the Madras Veterinary Establishment.

The boys to be educated at the Madras Veterinary Establishment are to be enlisted for the service of the cavalry, and his excellency the commander-in-chief is requested to give the necessary orders for bringing them upon the effective strength of corps; but they must be returned "absent on command attached to the Madras Veterinary Establishment;" and when corps are complete to their establishments, they are to be returned as supernumeraries.

The pay of the troopers, after deducting the amount for their mess and washing, will be applied to the purpose of keeping up their establishment of necessaries, and one jacket and watering-cap will be issued, annually, in advance to each, in lieu of the regular clothing.

The right honourable the governor-general in council is also pleased to authorise the superintendant to draw two pagodas per month, for each of the troopers attached to the institution, to defray the expence of lodging, and for providing tools, instruments, and all &cs.

His excellency the commander in chief is requested to give such instructions as he may deem necessary for the purpose of carrying these arrangements into effect, and for recruiting the establishment from the Military Male Asylum, and the Charity-school, as far as those institutions can supply the number of boys required, or from such sources as he may deem most advisable, in the event of those institutions not furnishing the required number of boys.

Mr. Erratt is authorised to draw the usual medical allowances for the horses of the honourable the governor's body-guard, as established in government orders of 19th June, 1807, and to receive from the medical stores, on monthly indent for payment, a supply of European medicines, not exceeding the amount of 12 star pagodas per month.

With a view, also, to render the Veterinary Establishment of as much public utility as possible, the right honourable the governor-general is pleased to authorise Mr. Erratt to establish, at his own expense, an infirmary for horses, and to employ the troopers of the Veterinary Establishment in the duties of it.

The right honourable the governor-general in council requests his excellency the commander-in-chief will give the necessary orders for carrying the objects of this institution into effect, from the 1st of April, 1810.

Madras, Oct. 9, 1810.

The honourable the governor in council is pleased to direct that, as an encouragement to young officers, and the gentlemen cadets, to study the Hindostanee language, a competent knowledge of which is considered necessary to enable them to discharge, in a proper manner, the military duties expected of them in the course of their service, an honorary reward of pagodas 500 shall in future be given to each who shall be found, on due examination, to have made himself master in that language. All the cadets of the honourable company's army, on this establishment, who have arrived at Madras since the 1st May, 1809, will accordingly be considered eligible to benefit by the advantage intended to be established by this order; but no officer or cadet shall benefit by it, who has not passed the necessary examination within the period of three years after his arrival.

When, therefore, officers or cadets, who conceive that they have acquired a perfect knowledge of the Hindostanee, are desirous of being examined, they will offer themselves through whatever channel his excellency the commander-in-chief may be pleased to direct; and the honourable the governor in council will adopt such measures for the examination of them, as may appear to be expedient.

CIVIL APPOINTMENTS

BENGAL.

JANUARY.

Mr. W. F. Clark, register of the Zillah court at Beerbhoom.

Mr. J. Eyre, register at Sylhet.

Mr. C. Dawes, register at Midnapore.

Mr. N. M'Leod, register of the provincial courts of appeal, and circuit for Patna.

Mr. E. Barnet, assistant to the collector of Moorshedabad.

Mr. J. Furneaux, assistant to the magistrate of Hoogly.

Mr. J. Lyons, 1st assistant to the magistrate of the 24 Pergunnahs.

Mr. R. Morieson, assistant to the magistrate of Jaunpore.

Mr. W. Forrester, assistant to the magistrate of Bareilly.

Mr. J. W. Harding, assistant to the magistrate at Nuddeah.

Mr. H. Robertson, assistant to the magistrate of Jessore

Mr. H. Mackenzie, assistant register of the courts of Sudder Dewanny, and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. H. Sotheby, assistant in the office of the register of the courts of Sudder Dewanny, and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. F. Magniac, assistant in the office of the register of the courts of Sudder Dewanny, and Nizamut Adawlut.

Mr. R. Hunter, assistant to the collector of Dinagepoor.

Mr. Gerald Wellesley, assistant secretary in the secret, political, and foreign department.

Mr. A. C. Fraser, assistant to the resident at Delhi.

Mr. C. J. Davidson, assistant to the superintendant of the western salt chokies.

Mr. P. Innes, assistant in the office of the secretary, to the board of revenue.

Mr. G. Tod, assistant sec. to government.

Hon. C. R. Lindsay, assistant to the commercial resident at Dacca.

FEBRUARY.

Mr. R. Rocke, senior judge of appeal, and court of circuit, Moorshedabad.

Mr. J. Melvill, senior judge of appeal, and court of circuit, Calcutta.
The hon. J. R. Elphinstone, second judge of appeal, and court of circuit, Moorshedabad.
Mr. E. Strachey, second judge of appeal, and court of Circuit, Dacca.
Mr. R. K. Dick, 3d judge of appeal, and court of circuit, Dacca.
Mr. J. Pattle, 3d judge of appeal, and court of circuit, Moorshedabad.
Mr. F. Morgan, judge and magistrate of the Zillah of Sylhet.
Mr. H. Cornish, judge and magistrate of the Zillah of Rajêshaye.
Mr. G. C. Master, judge and magistrate of the Zillah of Purneah.
Mr. W. Leycester, judge and magistrate of the Zillah of Dinagepore.
Mr. J. Ahmuty, judge and magistrate of Tirhoot.
Mr. R. Cunynghame, judge and magistrate of Behar.
Mr. R. Barlow, assistant collector of Benares.
Mr. R. Chamberlain, assistant collector of Bareilly.
Mr. H. Oakely, register of the court at Jessore.
Mr. P. Monkton, register of the court of appeal, and circuit, Calcutta.

March.

Lieut.-col. J. Hawkins, to be private secretary to the vice-president in council.

May.

Mr. H. Russel, resident at Hydrabad.

June.

Mr. J. Thornhill, to be post master general.
Sir J. D'Oyly, salt agent of the 24 Pergunnahs.
Mr. J. Irwin, ditto, ditto, at Bullooah and Chittagong.
Mr. J. Kinloch, superintendent of the Eastern salt chokies.
Mr. W. B. Bayley, judge of the Dewanny Adawlut, &c.
Mr. G. P. Ricketts, collector of government customs at Benares.
Mr. T. Hayes, judge of the Dewanny Adawlut, Jelalpore.

July.

Mr. G. C. Master, judge at Mirzapore.
Mr. P. W. Pechell, judge of Chittagong.
Mr. E. Impey, judge of Purneah.
Mr. J. Vaughan, assistant judge at Chittagong.
Mr. D. Burges, collector of Shahabad.
Mr. W. J. Sands, collector of Allahabad.
Mr. W. H. Trant, collector of Bareilly.
Mr. R. Mitford, collector, Mymensing.
Mr. W. Gorton, ditto, Cuttack.
W. B. Martin, resident at Amboyna.
J. Littledale, assistant to resident, fort Malborough.

August.

Mr. J. Sprot, assistant to salt agent at Chittagong.
Mr. J. R. Barwell, 3d member of the commission upon the debts of nabobs of the Carnatic.
Mr. G. D. Guthrie, superintendent of police, Bareilly and Benares.
Mr. C. H. Hopner, deputy collector of customs, at Furruckabad.
Mr. H. G. Christian, sub. sec. to the board of commissioners.
Mr. H. Newnham, accountant to the board of commissioners.
Mr. C. Mackenzie, assistant to commercial resident at Luckipore, and Chittagong.
Mr. W. Blunt, superintendent of police in Behar.
Mr. E. Impey, judge of the Jungle Mohauls.
Mr. A. B. Tod, judge of Purneah.
Mr. T. Pakenham, register of Adawlut in the Jungle Mohauls.
Mr. A. Mackenzie, register at Moorshedabad.
Mr. W. A. Chalmer, register at Moradabad.
Mr. W. F. Dick, register at Allyghur.
Mr. T. Sisson, register at Behar.
Mr. J. Ewing, register at Bhaugulpore.
Mr. E. Maxwell, register of the court at Dacca.
Mr. E. R. Barwell, register at Chittagong.
Mr. W. P. Tippett, register at Cawnpore.
Mr. W. W. Bird, assistant magistrate at Benares.
Mr. R. Walpole, assistant magistrate of the 24 Pergunnahs.
Mr. E. Parry, register at Ramghur, and assistant to the collector of Behar.
Mr. J. Furneaux, register at Burdwan.
Mr. R. T. J. Glyn, register at Benares.
Mr. W. J. Harding, register at Allahabad.
Mr. T. C. Robertson, register at Backergunge.
Mr. W. Wright, register at Furruckabad.

September.

Mr. T. Brown, assistant collector of Etawa.
Mr. G. Wellesley, second assistant, resident at the court of Dowlut Rao Scindia.
Mr. G. Davidson, mint master at the presidency.
Doctor J. Leyden, assay-master at the Calcutta mint.
Mr. R. M. Bird, assistant register of the Sudder Dewanny Adawlut and Nizamut Adawlut.
Mr. H. T. Prinsep, do. do. do.
Mr. G. Porcher, do. do. do.
Mr. C. R. Barwell, do. do. do.
Mr. G. T. Bayley, do. do. do.
Mr. J. Harrington, do. do. do.
Mr. P. E. Patton, do. do. do.
Mr. J. Curtis, do. do. do.
Mr. C. A. Molony, assistant in the office of the Persian sec. to govt.
Mr. A Trotter, assist. sec. to the board of revenue.
Mr. W. Fane, do. do. do.

Mr. W. H. Belli, assistant collector of Burdwan.
Mr. T. P. Calvert, assist. sec. to the board of commissioners.
Mr. W. R Jennings, assist. sec. to the board of trade.
Mr. C. G. Blagrave, assistant agent at Behar.
Mr. J. W. Grant, assistant collector of Cawnpore.
Mr. W. Nisbet, assistant secretary to government in the military department
Mr. W. Trower, deputy collector at Furruckabad.
Mr. C. H. Hopner, deputy collector at Moerut.

OCTOBER.

Mr. J. Wauchope, judge and magistrate of Agra.
Mr. G. Forbes, collector of Bundlecund.
Mr. W. Mackintosh, assistant collector at Chittagong.
Mr. W. Parker, resident at Fort Marlborough.
Mr. S. T. Goad, first commissioner appointed to investigate the claims upon the late nabob of the Carnatic.
Mr. F. Fauquier, second do. do.
Mr. R. Brown, secretary to the commissioners.
Mr. G. Saunders, deputy collector at Calcutta.
Mr. T. Perry, judge and magistrate of Etawah.
Mr. J. Law, collector of Moorshedabad.

NOVEMBER.

Mr. J. Littledale, head assistant and secretary at Fort Marlborough.
Mr. G. Tod, assistant to the sub-treasurer.
Mr. A. Trotter, assistant secretary in the public department.

DECEMBER.

Mr. A. Trotter, superintendent of lotteries.
The honourable Mount Stuart Elphinstone, resident at the court of the Peishwah.
R. Jenkins, Esq. to be resident at the court of the rajah of Nagpore.
Mr. W. Breddon, register of the Zillah court at Rajeshaye.

JANUARY, 1811.

Mr. A. Tegart, assistant collector at Mallacca.
Mr. W. Bennett, to be assistant warehouse-keeper.
Mr. J. Cousens, to act as deputy secretary to government.
Mr. H. Sotheby, assistant magistrate in the 24 Pergunnahs.
Mr. J. Harrington, assistant magistrate of Nuddeah.
Mr. J. Curtis, assistant magistrate of Burdwan.
Mr. P. E. Patton, assistant magistrate of Jessore.
Mr. C. R. Barwell, assistant collector of Goruckpore,
Mr. H. Sargent, assistant export warehouse keeper.
Mr. J. W. Grant, assistant commercial resident at Bauleah.
Mr. C. M. Ricketts, director of the bank of Bengal.
Mr. R. Parry, secretary to the board of trade.
Mr. T. Plowden, acting secretary to the board of trade.
Mr. W. J. Harding, assistant commercial resident at Benares.
Mr. C. M. Ricketts, secretary to the government in the public department.
Mr. C. Patton, judge and magistrate of Dacca Jelalpore.
Mr. H. Shakespeare, judge and magistrate of Jessore.
Mr. C. T. Metcalfe, resident at Delhi.
Mr. R. Strachey, resident at the court of Dowlut Rao Scindea.
Mr. G. Forbes, superintendent at Chandernagore.
Mr. J. Majoribanks, collector of Bundlecund.
Mr. T. English, second assistant to the export warehouse-keeper.
Mr. H. H. Wilson, assay master, during the absence of Dr. Leyden.
Mr. R. H. Tulloh, superintendent of stamps,
Mr. W. Toone, assistant commercial resident at Patna.
Mr. C. W. Gardiner, secretary to government in the military department.
Mr. A. Seton, governor of Prince of Wales's island.
Mr. J. Money, commercial resident at Etawah and Culpee.
Mr. C. J. Davidson, assistant to the superintendent of Western Salt Chokies at Sulkea.

BENGAL MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

1810.

JANUARY.

Lieut. col. G. Ball, 8th N. I. to be adjt. general.
Major-general R, Maçon, to the staff.
Lieut.-col. Paton, to be commis. gen. Major T. Wegulin, to be deputy. do. Capt. R. Stevenson, 12th N. I. and lieut. J. Lumsdaine, 4th N. C. to be assistant commis-

saries general. Capt. lieut. G. Becher, 5th N. C. to be sub-assistant commissary. Capt. W. Casement, 4th N. I. to be deputy quartermaster-general.

4th Regt. N. I. Capt. R. Berrie, to be major. Capt. lieut. F. Andree, to be Capt. Lieut. J. Hunter, to be capt.-lieutenant. Ensign C. Christie, to be lieut.

7th Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. G. Cunningham, to be capt. Lieut. P. T. Comyn, to be capt. lieut. Ensign R. Prichard, to be lieut.

23d Regt. N. I. Ensign W. Clarke, to be lieut.

9th regt. N. I. Ensign J. Strickle, to be lieut. Ensign W. W. Foord, to be lieut.

FEBRUARY.

Lieut. F. S. Brownrigg, 8th N. I. to be assistant commissary general.

MARCH.

Capt. E. Cartwright, 24th regt. N. I. major of brigade to lieut. col. Ochterlony's detachment.—Lieut. Nicholetts 22d regt. N. I. adjutant to the corps of Native Invalids.

Infantry. Senior Major J. Young, to be lieut. col.

2d Regt. N. I. Senior capt. N. Cumberlege, to be major. Capt. lieut. T. Jones, to be capt. Senior lieut. J. Pester, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign G. R. Pemberton to be lieut.

7th Regt. N. I. Senior ensign D. Pringle, to be lieut.

10th Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. F. Raper, to be capt. Senior lieutenant J. Thorne, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. Bowe, to be lieut.

25th Regt. N. I. Senior capt. W. G. Palmer, to be major. Capt. lieut. R. Bent, to be capt. Senior lieut. W. De Waal, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign R. Roche, to be lieut. Capt. J. Gordon, 15th regt. N. I. to be an assistant adjutant general.

16th Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. P. B. Hume, to be a capt. Senior lieut. J. Durant, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign D'Oyley Aplin, to be lieut.

Infantry. Senior major de Courcy, to be lieut. col.

13th Regt. N. I. Brevet major and senior capt. W. G. Maxwell, to be major. Capt. lieut. T. Hall, to be Capt. Senior lieut. W. Blake, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign J. Todd, to be lieut.

1st Regt. N. I. Senior ensign J. Holbro, to be lieut.

18th Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. W. Collyer, to be capt. of a company. Senior lieut. A. Armstrong, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign J. C. Mallet to be lieut. Lieut. T. Worsley, 83d regt. N. I. to be major of brigade.

Cavalry. Senior major A. Knox, to be lieut. col.

2d Regt. N. C. Brevet major and senior capt. M. Fitzgerald, to be major. Capt. lieut. F. J. T. Johnstone, to be capt. of a troop. Lieut. K. Swettenham, to be capt. lieut. Cornet G. Arnold, to be lieut.

Infantry. Senior major, H. A. O'Donnel to be lieut. col.

12th Regt. N. I. Senior capt. J. Fletcher to be major. Capt. lieut. H. Anderson, to be capt. of a company. Senior lieut. H. Hodgson, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign J. Campbell, to be lieut.

21st Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. C. Peach, to be capt. of a company. Senior lieut. J. Swinton, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign H. Dwyer to be lieut.

23d Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. G. Birch, to be capt. of a company. Senior lieut. B. Roope, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign G. Macdonell, to be lieut.

25th Regt. N. I. Senior lieut. W. De Waal, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign R. Roche, to be lieut. Capt. lieut. W. De Waal, to be capt. of a company. Senior lieut. T. P. Smith, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign H. Caldwell, to be lieut.

APRIL.

16th Regt. N. I. Brevet major, and senior capt. J. Delamain, to be major. Capt. lieut. J. Durant, to be capt. Senior lieut. J. W. Edwards, to be capt. lieut. Senior ensign D. Ogilvy, to be lieut.

19th Regt. N. I. Brevet major and senior capt. W. Franklin, to be major. Capt. lieut. R. French, to be capt. Lieut. J. Murray, to be capt. lieut. Ensign J. F. Berguer, to be lieut. Assistant surgeon W. L. Grant, to be surgeon. Major gen. F. Champagne, to the staff.

3d Reg. N. C. Senior lieut. N. Hodges, to be capt. lieut. Senior cornet C. C. Smyth, to be lieut. To be ensigns, N. Stewart, J. Campbell, H. Carter, V. L. Palmer, G. C. Haughton, W. Capson, J. Fraser, B. Purvis, H. W. Dyson, D. Campbell, J. Mac'Intosh, T. Ward, A. C. Macmurdo, W. P. Welland, H. S. Reid, J. Ellis, A. Dow, T. W. Incell, W. Ramsay. Capt. W. H. Wood, of the European regiment, to act as assistant adjutant general. Major gen. Macan, commanding officer of the troops at the presidency station, to be vice president of the Military board. Capt. A. M'Gregor, to be supernumerary aid-de-camp to the gov. general.

JUNE.

To be ensigns. H. W. Dyson, 1st bat. 1st Regt. N. I. A. Davidson, 1st bat. 7th regt. N. I. F. Wigney, 2d bat. 15th regt. N. I. H. S. Reid, 2d bat. 17th regt. N. I. W. H. Earle, 2d bat. 19 reg. N. I. W. B. Girdlestone, 1st bat. 23d regt. N. I. C. Thoresby, 2d bat. 19th regt. N. I.

3d Regt. N. I. Brevet major capt. F. French, to be major. Capt. lieut. W. B. Walker, to be capt. Lieut. H. S. Pep-

per, to be capt. lieut. Ensign C. J. Levade, to be lieut.

9th Regt. N. I. Ensign G. J. B. Johnstone, to be lieut. Capt. A. Campbell, 5th N. I. to be asssistant commissary general.

15th Regt. N. I. Capt. lieut. W. R. Gilbert, to be capt. Lieut. H. E. G. Cooper, to be capt. lieut. Ensign J. F. Hyde, to be lieut.

26th Regt. N. I. Ensign A.E. Charters to be lieut.

July.

1st Regt. N. I. Capt. W. Rankin, to be major. Capt. lieut. J. Macfarlane, to be capt. Lieut. A. Stewart (1st) to be capt. lieut. Ensign S. Maltby, to be lieut. Lieut. C. Russell, of the 21st N. I. is appointed to the command of the escort, at Hydrabad.

August.

Lieut. R. Smith is appointed field Engineer with the Bengal division. Capt. J. Stuart, of the honourable company's European regiment, to be assist. commissary general. Mr. J. Blanch, and Mr. G. E. Gerard, to be sub. assistants to the commissary general.

September.

Artillery. Senior capt. T. Dowell, to be Major. Capt. lieut. E. Graham, to be capt. Senior lieut. A. Fraser, to be capt. lieut. Senior lieut. F. G. N. C. Campbell, to be lieut. Senior major G. Constable to be lieut.-col. Capt. J. D. Sherwood, to be major. Capt. lieut. W. Mitchell, to be capt. Lieut. W. M'Quhoe, to be capt. lieut. Lieut. F. D. McAlister, to be lieut.

Senior Major J. W. Adams, to be lieut.-colonel. Major H. Worsley, to be lieut.-colonel. Major T. Salkeld, to be lieut.-colonel. Major T. Morgan, to be lieut.-colonel.

6th Reg. N. I. Captain lieut. C. Martin, to be captain. Senior lieut. S. P. Bishop, to be captain-lieut. Senior ensign W. Cubitt, to be lieutenant.

7th Reg. N. I. Senior capt. and brevet-major B. Kelly, to be major. Captain lieut. P. T. Comyn, to be captain. Senior lieut. J. Delamain, to be captain-lieut. Senior ensign C. Chrichton, to be lieut.

10th Reg. N. I. Senior capt. and brevet-major G. M'Morine, to be major. Captain-lieut. J. Thorne, to be captain. Senior lieut. S. H. Tod, to be captain-lieut. Ensign R. Shorediche, to be lieut.

26th Reg. N. I. Captain and brevet-major B. Stewart, to be major. Captain-lieut. A. Tod, to be captain. Senior lieut. F. Dickson, to be captain-lieut. Ensign A. Walter, to be lieutenant.

27th Reg. N. I. Senior capt. and brevet-major R. Morrell, to be major. Capt. lieut. H. A. Boscawen, to be captain. Senior lieut. A. Abernethy, to be capt. lieut. Ensign R. H. Gosling, to be lieut.

7th Reg. N. C. Capt. lieut. R. Sterling, to be captain. Lieut. J. Jones, to be capt. lieut. Cornet C. S. Waring to be lieut.

Corps of Engineers. Lieut. D. M'Leod, to be captain. Ensign W. E. Morrison, to be lieutenant.

Regiment of Artillery. Capt. T. Hill, to be major. Capt.-lieut. S. S. Hay, to be captain. Lieut. J. Cookson, to be capt.-lieut. Lieut. J. J. Farrington, to be lieut. Lieut. F. G. Brooke, to be lieut.

11th Reg. N. I. Capt.-lieut. H. P. Davies, to be captain. Lieut. J. H. Ashburn, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Oliver, to be lieutenant.

December.

Captain J. M. Johnson, of the 21st reg. N. I. to be supernumerary aid-de-camp to his lordship.

Lieut. R. Tickell, to be garrison engineer and executive officer at Allahabad.

The rev. doctor Young, to be chaplain to the garrison of Fort William; and the rev. Mr. Henderson, chaplain at the station of Dinapore.

MADRAS CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

1810.

January.

Mr. R. Orme, clerk of crown and arraigns, and of indictments.

Mr. J. Williams, dep.-register, and prothonotary, &c.

Mr. J. Shaw, clerk to the hon. the chief-justice.

H. Compton, esq. king's advocate.

February.

Mr. J. Haig, assistant-superintendent of stamps.

Mr. C. Ross, collector at Cuddapah.

Mr. C. Roberts, head-assistant to the collector of Arcot.

Mr. J. G. Turnbull, register to the court of Adawlut, North Malabar

Mr. W. O. Shakespear, assistant-judge, at Madura.

Mr. S. Boutflower, do. do. at Canara.

Mr. G. Gregory, judge and magistrate in the Zillah Salem.

Mr. R. H. Young, do. do. do. Tinnevelly.

Mr. S. Ibbetson, register to the court of Adawlut, Rajahmundry.

Mr. H. Dickenson, assistant register to the court of appeal and circuit for the centre division.

March.

F. J. Collis, esq. agent for transports.

Mr. W. Saunders, Gentoo translator.

April.

Mr. F. Holland, assistant-secretary to government in military department.

Mr. C. M. Smith, register to the court of Adawlut, Seringapatam.

Mr. W. Bell, assistant to the collector at Salem.

Mr. H. Mortlock, assistant to the register to the court of Sudder and Foujdaree Adawlut.

May.

Mr. M. G. Hudson, commercial resident at Ganjam.

Mr. H. Taylor, commercial resident at Vizagapatam.

Mr. E. Coxe, commercial resident at Masulipatam.

Mr. W. Dodwell, commercial resident at Maddepollam.

June.

Mr. G. Fischer, master attendant at Tutacorin.

Mr. W. Oliver, deputy-register to the court of Sudder and Foujdarree Adawlut.

Mr. J. C. Whish, assistant to the superintendent of stamps.

Mr. St. John Thackeray, do. do.

Mr. J. Stokes, do. do.

Mr. J. Haig, assistant to the collector of the northern division of Arcot.

Mr. H. G. Keene, first assistant to the register to the court of Sudder and Foujdaree Adawlut.

July.

Mr. T. Rolland, master attendant at Quilon.

August.

Mr. G. K. Jessup, examiner in the secret, political, and Foreign, department.

Mr. J. King, do. under the secretary to government in the military department.

Mr. J. B. Pybus, assistant in the revenue and judicial departments.

Mr. R. Anderson, assistant in the revenue and judicial departments.

Mr. R. Anderson, master attendant and marine storekeeper.

Mr. R. Rogers, assistant under the collector of Chingleput.

Mr. B. Cunliffe, fixed examiner under the secretary in the revenue and judicial departments of government.

September.

W. Petrie, Esq. senior member under council of the board of revenue.

Mr. I. R. Barwell, commissioner for investigating the Nabobs' debts.

Mr. W. Larkins, assistant to the chief secretary to government.

Mr. J. Gwatkin, secretary to the board of trade.

Mr. J. M'Dowell, Dutch translator to government.

Mr. H. Lacon, assistant to the register of the court of Sudder Udalut.

Mr. H. Dickenson, assistant register Chittoor.

Mr. J. B. Pybus, assistant superintendent of stamps.

October.

W. Thackeray, esq. acting chief secretary to government.

Mr. E. W. Cunliffe, assistant register of the court of Sudder Adawlut.

Mr. W. Waite, acting junior member to the board of revenue.

Mr. J. Cotton, acting secretary to do.

Mr. J. Riddle, acting collector of the southern division of Arcot.

Mr. J. Lautour, to be assistant superintendent of the export warehouse.

Mr. W. Bell, assistant collector Coimbatoor.

Mr. H. Mortlock, fixed examiner in the court of Sudder and Foujdaree Adawlut.

November.

Mr. J. Nesbit assistant secretary to government in political department.

Mr. H. W. Kensington, assistant secretary to board of revenue.
Mr. B. Harrison, do. do. do.
Mr. W. T. Blair, assistant register to the court of Sudder and Foujdaree Udalut.
Mr. F. Holland assistant, collector Salem.

DECEMBER.

The hon. L. G. K. Murray, collector of Rajahmundry.
Mr. J. Byng, judge and magistrate of Trichinopoly.
Mr. J. Long, do. do. Madura.
Mr. C. Woodcock, do. do. Ganjam.
Mr. E. Powney, do. do. Combukonum.
Mr. W. Olpherts, sheriff of Madraspatnam for the ensuing year.
Mr. S. H Greig, justice of the peace.

JANUARY, 1811.

W. Thackeray, Esq. chief secretary to government.
J. H. Peile, Esq. Persian translator to government.
Mr. W. T. Blair, assistant in the office of the accountant general.
Mr. W. Wayte, junior member of the board of revenue.
Mr. W. Oliver, secretary to the board of revenue.
Mr. F. Gahagan, superintendent of stamps.
Mr. C. Higginson, register to the provincial court of appeal for the southern division.
Mr. C. J. R. Ellis, do. do. for the northern division.

FEBRUARY.

H. Compton, Esq. standing council to the company at fort St. George.
Mr. H. Mortlock, deputy Persian translator to government.

MADRAS MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

1810.

JANUARY.

Capt. J. W. Whyte, deputy judge advocate, ceded districts. Lieut. F. Gregor, adjt. 2d bat. 21st N. I. Lieut. C. Hall, adjt. 2d bat. 16th N. I. Lieut. E. H. Leith, adjt. 2d bat. 22d N. I. Lieut. W. Kelso, superintendent of Bazars, Travancore.
5th N. I. Ensign C. Foulton, to be lieut.
7th N. I. Ensign C. S. Williams, to be lieut.

FEBRUARY.

Cornet M. C. Chase, to be adjt. of the body guard of the governor.
Capt. Brodie, 11th N. I. to 2d. bat. of pioneers.
Lieut.-col. Orrock, from 19th, to 3d N. I.
Lieut.-col. Barclay, from 3d, to 19th N. I.
Cornet Russel, to be quarter-master, 6th N. C.
Lieut. J. Mallindaine, 18th N. I. to be Hindostanee instructor, Cuddalore.
Senior major of cavalry, T. Nuthall, to be lieut.-col.
6th N. C. Capt. H. Munt, to be major. Capt.-lieut. T. H. S. Conway, to be capt. Lieut. J. Smith, to be capt.-lieut. Cornet J. M. Shakespeare, to be lieut. H. Smith to be cornet.
Lieut. Haultain, to be inspector of Poligar forts.
Capt. W. Munro, 15th N. I. to command the Madras volunteer bat. Lieut. R. Rolleston, to be adjt. ditto.

MARCH.

Artillery. — Lieut.-col. T. Clarke, to be lieut.-col. commandant. Major J. W. Freese, to be lieut.-col. Capt J. Taynton, to be major. Capt.-lieut. W. G. Pearse, to be capt. Lieut B. Bishop, to be capt.-lieut. Lieut C. W. Black, to be lieut. Lieut. B. Mackintosh, of the 1st bat. of artillery, is posted to the squadron of horse artillery
Corps of Artillery.—Major Sir J. Sinclair, bart. to be lieut.-col. Capt. M. Beauman, to be major. Capt.-lieut. J. Paske, to be capt. of a company. Lieut. J. Wilkinson, to be capt.-lieut. Lieut. Fire-worker A. Crawford, to be lieut.
Major N. M. Smyth, to be military secretary to the officer commanding the army.
Capt.-lieut. E. M. G. Showers, commissary of stores, and superintendent of the laboratory at St. Thomas's Mount.
Major J. Vernon, of the 6th reg. N. I. to be deputy quarter-master-general to the troops under orders for foreign service. Capt. E. Parkison, of H. M.'s 33d reg. to be deputy adjt.-gen. to the troops.
Lieut. A. Walker, to act as brigade major to the troops in Malabar and Canara. Ensign J. Addison, to be aid-de-camp to the officer commanding the army. Lieut. Power, to be fort adjutant of Bellary. Lieut.-colonel Campbell, of H. M.'s 33d

reg. to command the bat. of flank companies under orders for foreign service, Lieutenant Ashe, of H. M.'s 12th reg. of foot, to be adjt. and lieut. E. Anderson, of H. M.'s 33d reg. of foot, to be quarter-master to lieut.-col. Campbell's bat. Mr. W. Hall, to be agent for transports. Captain J. Paske, of the 2d bat. of artillery, to be commissary of stores. Capt. E. W. Snow, of the 12th reg, N. I. to be commissary of grain and provisions, and capt. W. Syms, of H. M.'s 69th reg. of foot, to be pay-master to the troops proceeding on foreign service. Lieut H. Harvey, of the 20th reg. N. I. to be agent for public cattle.

3d Reg. N. I. Capt. C. Lucas, to be major. Capt. lieut. T. T. Stevenson, to be capt. Lieut. A. Stewart, to be capt. lieut. Ensign G. W. Eccles, to be lieut.

2d N. I. Capt. lieut. F. W. Wilson, to be capt. Lieut. J. Ford, to be capt. lieut. Ensign G. Strachan, to be lieut. Senior major P. Richardson, from the 2d N. I. to be lieut.-col. Capt. G. R. A. Kelly, to be major. Capt. lieut. J. Ford, to be capt. Lieut. C. Elphinstone, to be capt. lieutenant. Ensign J. Dalziel, to be lieut. Capt. lieut. C. Elphinstone, to be capt. Lieut. E. Osborne, to be capt. lieut. Ensign J. P. James, to be lieut. Senior major of infantry, H. W. Radcliffe, from the 15th N. Reg. to be lieut.-colonel.

15th N. R. Capt. J. Campbell, to be major. Capt lieut. T. Wren, to be capt. Lieut. H. Y. Kent, to be capt. lieutenant. Ensign A. M'Cormick, to be lieut.

April.

Major C. D. Bruce, to be lieut.-col.

20th N. R. Capt. G. Custance, to be major. Capt. lieut. B. W. Lee, to be capt. Lieut. C. Brooke, to be capt. lieut. and ensign J. Fergusson to be lieut.

5th N. R. Capt. A. Molesworth, to be major. Capt. lieut. Sir M. Blakistone, to be capt. Lieut. J. Carnac, to be capt. lieut. Ensign C. Sinnock, to be lieut. Major J. Haslewood, to be lieut.-col.

24th N. R Capt. J. B. Seward, to be major. Capt. lieut. C. Wulbier, to be capt. Lieut. J. L. Charlesworth, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. James, to be lieut.

19th N. R. Capt. C. T. G. Bishop, to be Major. Capt. lieut. W. H. Loftie, to be capt. Lieut. W. S. Smith, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign T. Ball, to be lieut.

Lieut. W. Kutzleben, baron, to be cantonment adjt. at Wallajahbad. Lieut. Marshal, of the 20th reg. N. I. adjt. to the 2d bat. of that regiment.

Capt. Hughes is appointed to the 2d bat. of pioneers.

4th Reg. C Capt.-lieut. G. Gillespie, to be capt. Lieut. R. Palin, to be capt.-lieut. Cornet G. W. T. Erskine, to be lieut. Cornet A. Reid, to be cornet.

Corps of Engineers — Lieut. J. R. Cleghorn, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Mackintosh, to be lieut.

Corps of Artillery.—Lieut. J. H. Frith, to be capt.-lieut. Lieut. Fireworker, A. L. Murray, to be lieut. Lieut H. Rudyard, to be capt lieut. Lieut. Fireworker, H. Stuart to be lieut.

Madras European Reg. — Capt.-lieut. D. Forbes, to be capt. Lieut. G. L. Nixon, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. J. Dacre, to be lieut.

8th Reg. N. I. Capt.-lieut H. Davie, to be capt. Lieut. D. Carstairs, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign S. Meddowcroft, to be lieut.

11th Reg. N. I. Capt. J. P. Winfield, to be major. Capt.-lieut. L. Poignand, to be capt. Lieut. H. Downes, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign R. S. Wilson, to be lieut. Ensign T. J. Hammond, to be lieut.

12th N. I. Capt. lieut. P. Robertson, to be capt. Lieut. J. Green, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign T. Wakefield, to be lieut. Capt.-lieut. J. Green, to be capt. Lieutenant. J. Henry, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign C. W. Mackintosh, to be lieut.

15th N. I. Capt.-lieut. J. Hall, to be capt. Lieut. E. S. Patishall, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Hume, to be lieut.

17th N. I. Captain J. D. Greenhill, to be major. Capt.-lieut. A. N. Bertram, to be capt. Lieut. R. Dalgairns, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign C. G. Brown, to be lieut.

21st N. I. Capt. J. Fitzpatrick, to be major. Capt.-lieut. C. Stewart, to be capt. Lieut. J. Lea, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Nash, to be lieut.

24th N. I. Capt.-lieut. J. L. Charlesworth, to be capt. Lieut. W. Fernyhough, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. Thompson, to be lieutenant.

Corps of Artillery.—Lieut. Fireworker H. H. Gore, to be lieut. Capt.-lieut. E. M. G. Showers, to be capt. Lieut. J. Briggs to be capt.-lieut. Lieut. Fireworker T. Nelson, to be lieut.

6th Reg. Ensign W. R. Thompson, to be lieut.

17th N. I. Ensign H. W. Hodges, to be lieutenant.

25th N. I. Ensign W. Bonest, to be lieut.

Doctor Harris, to be superintending surgeon to the expedition destined for foreign service. Mr. surgeon D. Scott, and Messrs. assistant surgeons Stephenson and Chalmers, to be hospital staff. Mr. assistant surgeon W. Jones, to be deputy medical storekeeper to the expedition.

Major V. Blacker, to be quarter-master general of the army, with the official rank of lieut.-col.

Capt R. B. Otto, to be deputy quarter-master general of the army, with the official rank of major.

Lieut. W. Biss, to be assistant quarter-master general.

Lieut.-col. James Leith, to be Persian interpreter to head quarters.

Capt J. W. Whyte, to be assistant quartermaster general, in the centre division of the army.

Lieut J. Scott, junior, of the 22d reg. N. I. to be deputy judge advocate in the ceded districts.

Lieut. C. Cracroft, to be adjutant to the 1st bat. 22d reg. N. I. Capt T. Smithwaite, to command the 2d. bat. of Pioneers.

Corps of Artillery. — Capt.-lieut. M. H. Court, to be capt. Lieut. W. Cullen, to be captain-lieut. Lieutenant Fireworker, A. C. Chrichton, to be lieut.

Lieut.-col. John James Durand, to be lieut.-colonel commandant.

11th N. I. Capt. J. Paterson, to be major. Capt. lieut. J. Simons, to be capt.

Ensign W. Borthwick, to be lieut.

Senior major H. Fraser, from the 5th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

5th N. I. Capt. J. Gennys, to be major. Capt.-lieut. J. Carnac, to be capt. Lieut. G. Maunsell, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign G. M. Grant, to be lieut

Mr. J. Smart, to be an assistant surgeon on this establishment. The right hon. the governor-general in council is pleased to direct, that the undermentioned officers be appointed to the staff at Goa, from the first of May next.

Major N. M. Smyth, of the 14th reg. N. I. to be barrack master.

Capt. T. A. S Achmuty, of the 8th reg. N. I. to be paymaster and garrison store keeper.

Capt. E. Hay, of the 18th reg. N. I. to be major of brigade.

Capt.-lieut. C. Gahagan, of artillery, to be commissary of stores.

Lieut. W. Stone, of the 24th reg. N. I to be superintendent of Bazars and fort adjutant.

Capt.-lieut. G Osborne, to be quarter-master of brigade in Travancore.

19th N. R. Capt. H. M. Kelly, to be major. Capt.-lieut. W. S. Smith, to be capt. Lieut. H. Norton, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign D. Donaldson, to be lieut.

Col. Gordon, H. M.'s 89th regiment, to command in the garrison of fort St. George.

Major Sir C. Burdett, to command at Poonamallee. Capt. Barrow, of H. M.'s 69th regiment, to pay the families of that reg. and his majesty's 86th. Mr. surgeon A. Mackenzie, to be a superintending surgeon.

MAY.

Lieut. M. Creagh, of H. M.'s 86th reg. to be brigade major to lieut.-col. Fraser.

20th Reg. Capt.-lieut. C. Brooke, to be capt. Lieut. H. Harvey, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. K. Ritchie, to be lieut. Captain T. Stewart, to be assistant adjt. general in the ceded districts. Capt. W. C. Campbell, to be assistant quarter-master general in the ceded districts. Capt. R. Davis, to act as deputy judge advocate to the Hydrabad subsidiary force. Lieut. T. Prendergast, to be fort adjutant of Masulipatam.

21st Reg. N. I. Capt. A. Fair, to be major. Capt.-lieut. J. Lea, to be captain. Lieut W. Fair, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign H. Robinson, to be lieut. Mr. assistant surgeon Chalmers, to afford medical aid to the Zillah court at Onore Mr. assistant surgeon Reviere, to afford medical aid to the garrison of Cochin. Mr. assistant surgeon Cook, to take charge of the medical duties of the garrison at Ryacottah.

JUNE.

Mr. surgeon Rogers, to take charge of the medical duties of the garrison of Vizagapatam.

19th N. I. Capt.-lieut. H. Norton, to be captain. Lieut. H. C. Harvey, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Bannatyne, to be lieut. Major of infantry, H. S. Scott, from the 7th N R. to be lieut.-col.

7th Reg. N I Capt. G. Keates, to be major. Capt.-lieut. C. Jackson, to be capt. Lieut. J. Hampton, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign H White, to be lieut.

13th Reg. Capt.-lieut W. Moore, to be capt. Lieut. R. West, to be capt. lieut. Ensign John Gwynne, to be lieut. Mr. surgeon G. Anderson, to be superintending surgeon of Mysoor. Mr. surgeon Pender, to afford medical aid to the stations of Roichouty and Coorumeonaah. Lieut. W. Ormsby, of the 15th reg. N. I. to officiate for lieutenant-colonel Leith.

To be majors by brevet, in the East Indies only, capt. J. L. Caldwell, and J. Blair, of the corps of Engineers. Lieut. T. Dark, to be adjutant, 4th N. C. Lieut. H. J. Wilkinson, to be adjt. 2nd bat. 13th N. I. and J. Blair, of the corps of engineers.

JULY.

3d. Reg. N. I.—Capt. T. Little, to be major. Capt.-lieut. A. Stewart, to be capt. Lieut. J. Walker, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. Shepherd, to be lieut.

11th Reg. N. I.—Ensign H. Pearson, to be lieut. Senior major of infantry, J. Lindsay, from the 11th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

11th Reg. N. I.—Capt. M. L. Pereira, to be major. Capt.-lieut. H. Downes, to be capt. Lieut. R. Evans, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign F. G. B. Ennis to be lieut.

Cadets.—J. Morrison, to be cornet.

J. G. Proby, H. Fullerton, D. Sims, to be ensigns of engineers.

W. T. Slade, C. H. Gibbs, J. Grimpshaw, R. Dunmore. H. O. Butts, A. Mc Arther. G. Walker, J. L. Richardson, W. Cunningham, A. Gleig, R. S. Swain, to be ensigns.

17th N. I.—Lieut. J. Ogilvie, to be capt.-lieut.

19th Reg. N. I.—Ensign W. Beyton, to be lieut. Ensign H. Matthews, to be lieut.

SEPTEMBER.

Lieut. H. Cramer, of his majesty's 30th regiment, fort adjutant and paymaster to the depot at Poonamallee. Lieut.-col. J. Dighton, to command at Wallajahbad. Mr. Assistant surgeon Speirs, to perform the medical duties at Cuddalore. Lieut. O'Kinnin, 15th regt. N. I. to be adjutant to the 2d bat. Lieut. T. Prendergast, of the 9th regt. N. I. to be adjutant to the 2d bat. Lieut. H. Smith, of the 24th regt. N. I. to be fort adjutant of Masulipatam. His excellency lieut.-gen. the honourable John Abercrombie, to the chief command of the troops employed on foreign service. Major gen. H. Warde, to command the troops proceeding from Madras. Colonel Gillespie of his majesty's 25th dragoons, to command the force in Mysoor, during the absence of major-gen. Warde, and lieut.-col. Adams to command at Bangalore. Capt. Webster, of the 4th reg. N. I. to be an extra aid-de-camp, to major-general Warde. Cadets. Mr. D. Walker, to be cornet.

Artillery. Messrs. N. Hunter, R. Hopper, J. J. Gamage, to be lieut. fire workers.

Infantry. Messrs. J. I. Nixon, W. Glover, J. Stiggall, S. Y. D'Esterre, J. Henry, W. Graham, W. Sweny, L. Lonsdale, E. Fitzgerald, J. Macartney, J. Ker, Marshal Keith Young, to be ensigns.

OCTOBER.

Capt. G. E. Barlow, private secretary, to the honorable the governor. Lieut.-col. commandant P. A. Agnew, R. Mackay, H. M'Lean, to be colonels. Lieut.-col. commandant T. Dallas, A Cuppage, A. Taylor, J. Chalmers, A. Dyce, K. Macalister, C. Corner, R. M. Strange, J. J. Durand, to be colonels.

6th Reg. N. I. Capt. J. M'Dougall, to be major. Capt. lieut. F. Bowes, to be capt. Lieut. N. H. Hatherly, to be capt. lieut.

25th Reg. N. I. Capt. lieut. S. S. Gummer, to be capt. lieut. P. Henderson, to be capt. lieut. Ensign J. Cumming, to be lieut. Capt. Hodgson, to act as assistant adjutant general in Mysore. Captain J. T. Trewman, to act as assistant quarter-master general in Mysore. Col. P. A. Agnew, military secretary. Capt. Tylden, H. M.'s 43d reg. Capt. W. Dickson, 6th reg. N. C. aids-de-camps to his excellency lieut. gen. Sir S. Achmuty. Capt. Knatchbull of H. M.'s 80th regiment, to be a supernumerary aid, de-camp to his excellency the commander-in-chief. Capt. W. Morrison, of the 1st bat. of artillery to be commissary gen. with the official rank of major, and with a seat at the military board, until the pleasure of the honourable the court of directors shall be known. Major A. Mackintosh, of the 22d reg. N. I. Major A. Grant, of the 24th reg. N. I. Capt. T. Stewart, of the 9th reg. N. I. Capt. W. I. Jones, of the 18th reg. N. I. Capt. H. A. Purchaus, of the 25th reg. N. I. Capt. H. Harvey, of the 20th regiment, N. I. Lieut. J. Shaw, of the 17th N. I. to be assistant commissaries gen. Lieut. M. Cubbon, 25th N. I. Lieut. A. Cumming, 2d N. I. lieut. Campbell, N. C. to be sub-assistants. Lieut. B. Mackintosh, to be quarter master of horse artillery. Lieut. D. Agnew, to be adjutant to 2d bat. 3d reg. N. I. Lieut. Goble, to be adjutant to the 2d bat. 3d reg. N. I. Capt. J. W. Whyte, of the 13th reg. N. I. to be brigade major in the ceded districts. Lieut. Scott, (junior) of the 22d reg. N. I. to be quarter master of brigade, in the ceded districts. Lieut. Cunningham, 13th reg. N. I. to be quarter master of brigade, at Goa. Capt. Elphinstone, 2d reg. N. I. brigade major in Mysore. Capt. West, 13th reg. N. I. brigade quarter-master in Mysore. Capt. Trewman, 22d reg. N. I to be brigade quarter-master to the centre division. Col. A. Taylor, to command the garrison of fort St. George. Capt. C. Heath, to be major. Capt. lieut. Hampton, to be capt. Lieut. J. H. Kettle, to be capt. lieut. Ensign B. Hitchens, to be lieut. Capt. R. Macdowall, to be major, capt. lieut. W. Fernyhough, to be captain. Lieut. C. F. Tolfrey, to be capt. lieut. Ensign G. Gill, to be lieut.

NOVEMBER.

1st Reg. Cavalry. Lieut. M. Kemble, to be quarter-master.

2d Reg. N. I. Lieut. W. James, to be adjutant to the 2d bat.

17th Reg. N. I. Lieut G. Schoons to be adjutant to the 1st bat. Lieut. H. O. Toriano, to be superintending engineer, in the ceded districts. Lieut. J. Mackintosh, to be superintending engineer at Goa.

DECEMBER.

Senior lieut.-col. A. Taylor, to be lieut.-col. commandant 1806. Senior major Fletcher, from the 17th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

17th N. R.—Capt. M. Stewart, to be major. Capt. lieut. C. T. Hatton, to be capt. Lieut. G. L. Wahab, to be capt. Lieut. ensign T. Jackson, to be lieut. Senior major H. Buchan, from the 22d N. I. to be lieut.-col.

22d N. Reg.—Capt. W. P. Heitland, to be major. Capt. lieut. J. Lindsay, to be

capt. Lieut. W. Hankins, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign E. Y. Hancock, to be lieut. Senior major T. Marriott, from the 25th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

25th N. Reg.—Capt T. Gurnell, to be major. Capt. lieut. R. Davis, to be capt. Lieut. J. M. Coombs to be captain. lieut. Ensign J. Willows, to be lieut. Senior major G. Hadow, from the 8th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

8th N. Reg.—Capt. W. Blackburn, to be major. Capt. lieut. T. Johnson, to be capt. Lieut. J. G. Bellingham, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Wood, to be lieut. Senior major Wilson, from 16th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

16th N. Reg.—Capt. C. Deacon, to be major. Capt. lieut. P. M. Cuffley, to be capt. Lieut. T. Jenkins, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign J. Percy, to be lieut. Senior major P. H. Vesey, from the 2d N. R. to be lieut.-col.

2d N. Reg.—Capt. J. Welsh, to be major. Capt.-lieut. H. H. Pepper, to be capt. Lieut. J. Carfræ, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign W. Williamson, to be lieut. Senior major J. Neagle, from the 4th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

4th N. Reg.—Capt. G. Alexander Muat, to be major. Capt.-lieut. G. Birch, to be capt. Lieut. W. M'Donald Robertson, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign A. Hammond, to be lieut. Senior major A. Macfarlan, from the 5th N. R. to be lieut.-col.

5th N. Reg.—Capt. C. M'Gregor, to be major. Capt.-lieut. T. Douglas, to be capt. Lieut. J. Hankin, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign H. A. Howell, to be lieut.

Corps of Engineers.—Major W. C. Lennon, to be lieutenant-colonel. Captain C. Mackenzie, and J. Caldwell, to be majors. Capt.-lieuts. R. H. Fotheringham, T. F. de Havilland, J. Cotgrave, J. Fotheringham, Benj. Sydenham, lieut. J. Ross Cleghorn, H. H. Toriano, to be capts. Ensigns J. Blackiston, and S. Russell, to be lieuts. Ensign J. Mackintosh, to be lieut. Lieut. T. Fraser, to be capt. Ensign R. E. Milburne, to be lieut. Ensign W. Monteath, to be lieut.

19th Reg. N. I.—Capt.-lieut. H. C. Harvey, to be capt. Lieut. C. C. Johnston, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign G. Heath, to be lieut.

JANUARY, 1811.

Capt. S. Lutwidge, of the 11th regiment N. I. to be deputy judge advocate general, vice Duggan.

FEBRUARY.

8th Reg. N. C.—Lieut. C. W. Bell, to be capt.-lieut. Cornet H. B. Smith, to be lieut.

5th Reg.—Cornet R. L. Highmoor, to take rank from 6th October, 1810. Cornet G. Willock, to take rank from 4th December, 1810.

6th Reg.—Cornet D. A. Fenning, to take rank from 9th December, 1810. Cornet G. Garrard, to take rank from 15th December, 1810.

5th Reg.—Cornet G. Uhthoff, to be lieut. Cornet J. Buchanan, to take rank from 1st January, 1811.

10th reg. N. I.—Ensign A. Wilson, to be lieut.

10th N. Reg. N. I.—Ensign W. Shaw, to be lieut.

10th Reg. N. I.—Capt.-lieut. J. W. H. Howell, to be capt. Lieut. A Grant, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign O. Jones, to be lieutenant. Captain R. Podmore, to be major. Captain-lieutenant A Grant, to be capt. Lieut. R. Seymour, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign G. B. Tolson, to be lieut.

7th Reg. N. I.—Ensign C. I. Gilbert, to be lieut.

10th N. Reg.—Lieut. R. Gwynne, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign C. Storer, to be lieut.

7th N. Reg.—Ensign H. White, to be lieut. in the succession to Keates, promoted 14th December, 1809.

10th N. Reg.—Ensign G. Sharp, to be lieut. Ensign R. Cozens, to be lieut.

7th N. Reg.—Ensign W. Binny, to be lieut.

15th N. Reg.—Ensign C. Snell, to be lieut. Capt.-lieut. E. S. Patishall, to be capt. Lieut. J. Briggs, to be capt.-lieut. Ensign R. Morrison, to be lieut.

7th N. Reg.—Ensign B. R. Hitchins, to be lieut.

10th N. Reg.—Ensign N. L. Austin, to be lieut.

7th N. Reg.—Ensign J. Tulk, to be lieut.

14th N. Reg.—Ensign H. Buckworth, to be lieut.

Madras European Reg.—Ensign J. Roy, to be lieut.

17th N. Reg.—Ensign J. Glass, to be lieut. Lieut. G. Spinks, of the 7th reg. N. I. to be aid-de-camp to the honourable the governor.

The governor in council is pleased to re-admit captain Bagshaw, of the 25th regiment, N. I. with his rank on the military establishment of this presidency.

Mr. W. Nicol Burns, having produced the requisite certificates of his appointment to be a cadet on this establishment, the governor in council is pleased to admit him in that capacity, and to promote him to the rank of ensign, date of commission to be settled hereafter.

Lieut. W. Vaughan, 15th regiment, N. I. to be adjt. to the 1st bat. Lieut. F. Crecoe, 21st regiment, N. I. to be adjt. to the 1st bat. Lieut. J. S. Chauval, to be adjt. to the 2d bat. 21st regiment N. I. Mr. M'Kenzie, acting superintending surgeon in Mysore, to remain at the presidency, on leave of absence for one month.

8th Reg. Cavalry.—Lieut. H. Jones, to be quarter-master.

10th Reg. N. I.—Lieut. P. Morrill, to be adjt. to the 1st. bat. and lieut. C. C. Al ?as, to be adjt. to the 2d bat.

BOMBAY CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

1810.

R. Stewart, Esq. Mayor.
J. Falconar, Esq. Sheriff.
H. G. Macklin, Esq. to be advocate-gen. and reporter to the court of Sudder Devannie Adawlet.
Doctor J. Taylor, to be chief interpreter and translator of the recorder's court.
R. T. Goodwin, Esq. to be superintendent of Police.
Mr. J. Faresh, acting deputy secretary to government.
Messrs. Wilkins and De Vitre, examiners in the office of chief secretary.

BOMBAY MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

1810.

JUNE.

Infantry. Senior major W. Young, to be lieut.-col.
8th Reg. N. I. Capt. R. Barclay, to be major. Capt. lieut. C. Tudor, to be capt. Lieut. J. Salter, to be capt. lieut. Lieut. F. Dangerfield, to be lieut. Ensign J. Carr, to be lieut.
Infantry. Lieut.-col. M. Grant, to be lieut.-col- commandant. Major R. Gordon, to be lieut.-col.
2d Reg. N. I. Capt. J. Lock, to be major, capt. lieut. A. Hogg, to be capt. and lieut. J. Hickes, to be capt. lieut.
Infantry. Major J. Douglas, to be lieut. col.
2d Reg. N. I. Capt. W. Mealey, to be major, capt. lieut. J. Hickes, to be capt. Lieut. R. Seward, to be capt. lieut. Ensign T. Lloyd, to be lieut.
Infantry. Major J. C. Sheen, to be lieut. col.
5th Reg. N. I. Capt. F. W. Gifford, to be major. Capt. lieut. N. Allen,* to be capt. Lieut. A. Gibson, to be capt. lieut. Ensign S. Long, to be lieut. Ensign T. Stewart, to be lieut. Capt. J. Mayne, to be assistant quarter master gen. Capt. W. Burke, to be major of brigade, at Poona.
7th reg. N. I. Capt. lieut. W. Swayne, to be capt. Lieut. J. Mayne, to be capt. lieut. Lieut. E. Walker, to be lieut. Capt. lieut. J. Mayne, to be capt. Lieut. P. Delamotte, to be capt. lieut. Lieut. E. M. Wood, to be lieut. Lieut. F. Roome, to be lieut. Capt. lieut. P. Delamotte, to be capt. Capt. lieut. T. Burford, to be capt. Capt. lieut. J. M. V. Grant, to be capt. Lieut. H. Pottinger, to be lieut. Capt. lieut. T. Burford, to be capt. Capt. lieut. G. Brookes, to be capt.

CEYLON CIVIL APPOINTMENTS.

1810.

JANUARY.

J. Richardson, Esq. head civil servant, Trincomallee.

E. Tolfrey, Esq. judge at Galle.

H. Sneyd, Esq. collector at Manar.

J. Gay, Esq. collector at Galle.

W. Granville, Esq. custom master at Jaffnapatam.

J. B. Nares, Esq. first assistant to the paymaster general, &c.

W. Greenslades, Esq. 2d assistant, ditto.

C. Scott, Esq. assistant to the commissioners of revenue.

FEBRUARY.

A. High, Esq. to be deputy inspector of Hospitals.

MARCH.

Major Edwards, to be private secretary to his excellency the governor.

T. Mason, Esq. garrison store keeper, Columbo.

MAY.

J. Sutherland, Esq. to be assistant in the chief secretary's office in the judicial department, &c. A. Bartolacci, esq. to be civil auditor, pro tempore.

NOVEMBER.

J. Gay, Esq. collector of Galle, to act as deputy secretary to government.

W. Grenville, Esq. custom master of Jaffna, to act as collector of Galle.

W. Greenslade, Esq. 1st assistant in the secretary's office, to act as custom master of Jaffna.

D. Starke, Esq. to act as 1st assistant in the secretary's office.

CEYLON MILITARY PROMOTIONS.

1810.

19th Reg. Lieut. R. B. Duke, to be adjt. Hospital mate J. Leath, to be assistant-surgeon.

APRIL.

19th Foot. Ensign J. Knox, from 52d foot, to be lieut. Lieut. J. Wilson, from 52d foot, to be lieut. Ensign R. Cormack, from North York militia, to be ensign.

66th Foot. Major J. P. Murray, to be lieut.-col. Lieut. J. Butcher, to be capt. To be lieuts. Ensign J. Lyster, ensign Lambretcht, ensign H. Morgan, ensign J. P. Rose. To be ensigns. Ensign S. Burkeley, from the African corps, J. C. Preston, gent. G. Walker, gent. W. Coulter, gent. J. Usher, gent. H. Young, gent. A. Warren, gent.

2d Ceylon Reg. Capt. J. Armstrong, to be major.

66th Regt. 2nd lieut. T. Moffatt, to be lieut.

1st Ceylon Reg. — Gahagan, gent. to be 2d lieut. Serjeant-major R. Thomas, from the 89th reg. to be 2d lieut.

3d Ceylon Reg. P. R. Shorditch, gent. to be 2d lieut.

19th Reg. Major Chaplain, from the 2d Ceylon regt. to be major.

19th Foot. Capt. A. Lawrence, to be major. Lieut. J. A. Anderson, to be capt. Lieut. G. Stewart, to be capt. To be lieutenants. Second lieut. P. C. Lamphire, from the 3d Ceylon, second lieut. R. McDonald, from the 2d Ceylon reg. lieut. W. Thome, from the 84th foot, ensign J. MacLean, ensign J. Bagnett, ensign J. Duncan, ensign E. Tubbs, from the 56th foot, ensign G. L. Hallilay, from the 7th garrison bat. ensign V. Raymond. To be ensigns ; J. MacDonald, gentleman, J. B. Edensor, gent. D. Campbell, gent. H. Woodward, gent.

66th Foot. Lieut.-colonel J. Colbourne, from the 5th garrison bat. to be lieut.-col. To be captains: Lieut. J. Jordon, lieut. J. H. Ellis, lieut. A. Bulstrode, from the 3d foot, Capt. W. Ferns, from the 7th garrison bat. To be lieutenants: Ensign R. C. C. Wogan, from the 67th foot, second, L. T. Moffat, from the 1st Ceylon, regt. ensign J. Clarke, ensign C. McCarthy, ensign J. Codd, ensign F. Hand, ensign C. J. Fox, ensign R. H. Reardon, from the 82d foot. To be ensigns: lieut. J. Kay, from the Donegal militia, T. Charleston, gent. A. Nicolls, gent. W. Kingsmill,

gent. H. E. Hend'e, gent. J. Dowling, gent. J. Garstin, gent. A. Browne, gent. Assistant surgeon, J. Wardell, from the 57th foot to be surgeon.

89th Foot. Capt. R. Butler, to be major. Capt. J. Grant. from the 86th foot, to be major. Lieut. R. C. Rose, to be capt. Capt. J. H. Peel, from the 1st Dragoon guards, to be capt. Ensign T. Podmore, to be lieut. Lieut. J. Hewson, from half pay of the 104th reg. C. McKenzie, gent. to be ensign. Assistant surgeon, T. Gordon, from the 91st foot, to be surgeon. Hospital mate M. Dulgan, to be assist. surgeon.

1st Ceylon Reg. Lieut. R. Coxon to be capt. Capt. J. Blankenberg, from the 3d Ceylon, regt. to be capt. to be 1st lieut. 2d lieut. S. Moffat.

To be 2d lieutenants; C. G. Blackenberg, gent. H. J. D. Courtayne, gent. Assistant surgeon M. Hair, from the 34th foot to be surgeon.

2d Ceylon Reg. Second lieut. C. Christian, from the 3d Ceylon reg. Second lieut. W. Tranchell, to be ditto. Second lieut. P. Edward, from the 3d Ceylon reg. to be 1st. lieut. C. W. L. Roberts, gent. to be 2d lieut. Assis[t]ant surgeon H. Marshall, from the 89th fo[o]t, to be assist. surgeon.

3d Ceylon Reg. Maj[o]r J. Maitland, to be lieut.-col. Capt. A. Johnstone, to be major. Lieut. P. Peckham, to be capt. Capt. A. Alexand[e]r, from the 19th foot, to be capt. Capt. M. Prayer, from the 1st Ceylon reg. C[apt]. G. Stewart, from the 19th foot, to b[e] capt. Capt. W. E. Frye, from the 56th foot, to be capt. Second lieut. W. Black, to be 1st lieut. Second lieut. J. Bell, to be 1st lieut. Serjeant major —— [St.] Leger, from the 67th foot to be second li[e]ut.

JU[L]Y.

Major C. Edwards, [t]o be assistant adjutant gen. Major McN[a]bb, to be military sec. to lieut.-gen. Maitla[n]d. Major Hankey, to act as deputy quarte[r]master gen. Lieut.-col. Campbell, 4th Ceyl[o]n reg to act as deputy adjutant gen. Ca[p]t. Hook, 2d Ceylon reg. to be military secretary to brigadier gen. Wilson. Ca[p]t. Anderson, 19th reg. is appointed to the command of the fort and garrison of Cal[p]enteen. Capt. Coxon, H. M.'s 1st Ceylo[n] reg. to be aid-de-camp to his excellency th[e] governor.

BENGAL MARRIAGES.

1810.

JANUARY.—Capt. W. Shea, of H. M. 14th foot, to Miss Middleton. Mr. H. Peacock, to Miss A. McQuillin. Mr. J. Hefferman, to Miss A. Godrio. Mr. J. D. C. Suaris, to Miss J. Thornton. Mr. F. Coates, to Miss M. Mandera. J. Millin, esq. to Miss E. Masterson.

FEBRUARY.—Mr. E. Murphy, to Mrs. E. Pratt. Mr. J. Le Brow, to Miss M. Lemabel. J. Mellis, esq. A. S. to Miss E. Matterson. Mr. C. Moore, to Miss D. Smith. Mr. T. W. Phillips, to Miss A. Savi. Mr. A. Binney, to Miss M. A. Stone. Col. H. Webber, 6th reg. N. I. to Miss E. L. L'Ecoler. Mr. G. Farrow, to Miss M. Purkis. Mr. U. Frederick, to Miss J. D'Cruiz. Mr. T. Solminhae, to Miss C. Hartley. Mr. C. Diggel, to Miss M. D'Rozario. Mr. J. D. D'Amballe, to Mrs. M. Filix. Mr. J. Ridesut, to Miss E. Rodrigues. F. Ferrars, esq. to Miss Rozalia de Abreu. Mr. J. Doyle, to Miss M. Mac'Donald. Mr. J. Esau, to Miss D. Lucas.

MARCH.—R. Even, esq. to Miss Crutenden. S. Nation, esq. to Miss M. A. Brady. Rev. J. Paraon, to Miss Hardwicke. Mr. S. Cameron, to Miss J. Bradberry. Mr. T. Graham, to Miss S. Onion. Mr. P. Counsel, to Miss S. Pickerin. Mr. W. Walker, to Miss M. Attenbore. Mr. E. H. Phillips, t[o] Miss E. Farell. Capt. A. Graham, to Miss H. Becher. Mr. T. Templeton, t[o] Miss A. Dolby. Claud Russel, esq. C. S. to Miss C. Grant.

APRIL.—Mr. J. B. De Verger, to Miss E. L'Hirondelle. Mr. Harrison, to Miss Shaw. Mr. R. Simpson, to Miss B. Statham. Capt. A. Glass, to Miss A. Leal. Mr. J. F. Phillips, to Miss. E. Lally. Mr. [R]. Williams, to Miss L. Scott. Mr. R. Davis, to Miss S. Glass. Mr. T. Home, to Miss S. Madley. Mr. H. Hastings, to Miss M. Double. Mr. L. H. Harvey, t[o] Miss Dickson. Mr. J. James, to Miss Jones.

MAY.—Mr. T. [W]. Jones to Mrs. Dalton. Mr. C. M. Dav[i]es to Miss F. Debrosses. Mr. J. Thom[p]son to Miss M. Peredic. Mr. Curren t[o] Miss R. Leach. The honourable G. Elliot, Captain in the royal navy, and second son of the right honoural[b]le the governor general, to Miss Eliza Ce[c]ilia Ness. T. Watts, esq. of the honou[r]able company's C. S. to Miss C. Gasti[n]g.

JUNE.—Lieut. T. [T]ickell, of the 8th N. I. to Miss M. [M]orris, Lieut. C. W. Burton, of the 8t[h] Reg. N. I. to Miss M. A.

Gilchrist. Mr. T
hoon. Mr. J.
E. D'Moyrah.
Mariner, to Miss
Miller to Miss I
Mackel to Miss M
JULY.—Mr. D. Tat
The Hon. H. T.
Wilkinson. Mr.
E. Fitzroy. M. I
to Miss E. A. Colv
to Mrs. E. Hartle
Miss S. Twalling
to Miss E. Phipps
Mrs. Sawyer. M.
A. C. George. I
E. Robertson. M
Simpson.
AUGUST.—Lieut. H
I. to Miss C. Wigg
C. S. to Miss E. (
kinson, M. E. to
SEPTEMBER.—Mr.
Doughty. Ensign.
to Miss S. Francis
Miss Reid. J. M
H. A. Reid.
OCTOBER.—R. Tha
Miss A. Beecher.
19th N. I. to Mis
P. L. Peterson, t
Mr. T. Austin, H
M'Kintosh. Mr.
Lockhart.
NOVEMBER.—J. Sm
sup. A. Ross, esq.
an. Mr. T. S. Jon
DECEMBER.—Mr. I
Derozio Capt. K
Townshend. A. G.
C. Machorg. Lieut
to Miss J. L. Kiern
Taylor, to Miss E. (
ardson, to Miss H.
burn, to Miss J. E

Packer, to Miss E. Ver-
Cranenburgh, to Miss
Mr. Geo. Denham,
A. E. Rebeiro. Mr. N.
C. Robertson. Mr. J.
I. Simpson,
e, to Miss M. Sawyer.
Colebroke, to Miss
J. Morris, to Miss C.
I. Turnbull, esq. C. S.
in. Mr. R. Nighland,
y. Mr. W. Jenkins to
g. Mr. E. G. Manini,
. Mr. C. Bowman, to
Mannook, esq. to Miss
Mr. N. Miller, to Miss
r. J. M'Kail to Miss M.

. E. G. Cooper, 16th N.
ins. A. F. Tytler, esq.
olin. Lieut. R. Hodg-
Miss Athanas.
W. Baine, to Miss A.
A. Harvey, 4th N. I.
. G. Mercer, esq. to
Wherter, esq. to Miss

ckeray, esq. C. S. to
Lieut. J. F. Sanford,
s E. Brietzeke. Mr.
Miss J. M. Giesler.
. C. M. to Miss A.
T. Tomlin, to Miss E.

ith, esq. to Miss Jes-
. to Miss M. A. Gow-
es, to Mrs. M. Knox.
I. Johnson, to Miss
. Allan, to Miss C.
I. Tod, esq. to Miss
. G. Waite, 22nd N. I.
lander. Capt. J. W.
Gould. Mr. J. Rich-
Coss. Mr. M. Cock-
Hawkins. Lieut. W.

Sivright, 8th N. C. to Miss A. Martindell. Mr. J. Jones, to Miss H. Inshaw. Major A. Francis, 3rd N. I. to Miss A L'Herondell. W. Thomas, esq. to Miss Hogg. C. Phannoos, Esq. to Miss M. L. Johannes. Capt. J. H. Brown, to Mrs. P. Rogers. R. Dennison, esq. to Miss E. Monro. C. Trower, esq. to Miss A. C. Erskine. Mr. L. Delanougerede, to Miss. M. De Couto. Mr. R. Chase, to Miss Aratoon. B. Loftie, esq. Surgeon, to Miss L. Raffles. Sir J. Newbolt, to Miss Blenkinsop.

JANUARY, 1811.—W. Fane, esq. to Miss L. H. Dashwood. W. B. Gordon, esq. to Miss M. Crommeline. Mr. T. Hart, to Miss J. Forsyth. Mr. J. Rousseau, to Miss J. Hayer. Lieut. E. Craigie, 24th N. I. to Miss Mansan. Major G. H. Fagan, to Miss H. S. Lawtie. Lieut. W. Gates, 8th N. C. to Miss M. Ferryman. Mr. J. Mercado to Miss C. Meranda. Mr. J. C. Willerton, to Miss M. Taylor. Mr. G. Bowers, to Miss A. Mc Pherson. Mr. N. Budge, to Miss A. Lesco. J. Hunter, esq. to Miss E. Jennings. Mr. T. Mac Cauly, to Mrs. M. Harris. Mr. J. S. Adams to Miss J. Adams. Lieut. A. R. Gale, Adjt. H. M. 17th reg. of foot, to Miss D. Oyly.

FEBRUARY.—Lieut. J. Ramsay, 21st N. I. to Miss E. Hunter. C. Stuart, esq. to Miss Savi. Sir W. G. Kier, Knight, to Miss R. Jackson. Ensign T. Haslem, to Miss Pyefinot. Mr. J. De Songa, to Miss J. Anderson. Mr. J. Browne to Miss M. Guthrie. J. H. Furgusson, esq. to Miss Petrie. Major J. Johnson, to Miss E. Hewett. J. Inglis, esq. to Miss C. Chapman. J. Pattle, esq. to Miss De L'Etang. J. Coverdale, esq. to Miss J. Speak. A. L. Baretto, esq. to Miss J. Vrignon. Lieut. W. Clarke, to Miss A. Wilson. Mr. G. A. C. Moratcan, to Miss A. M. Moses.

BENGAL BIRTHS.

1810.

JANUARY.—Lady of
a son. Lady of capt.
of a son. Lady o
2d N. I. of a daughte
a son. Lady of col. I
ty's 22d regiment, of a
J. Plusker, Esq. of a
capt. B. Morris, of a so
Binney, of a son.
FEBRUARY.—Lady of
daughter. Lady of J.

ieut. J. P. Knott, of
an J. Stuart Schnell,
Lieut. J. Gerrard,
Mrs. H. Orde, of
lrymple, his majes-
daughter. Lady of
daughter. Lady of
. Mrs. M. D. G.

V. Steer, Esq. of a
Gibbon, Esq. of a

daughter. Mrs. S. Dyce, of a daughter. Lady of brigade-major Bristow, of a daughter. Lady of lieut. G. Warden, 7th regiment N. I. of a son. Mrs. Sebastino, of a daughter. Lady of lieut. C. J. Dovetan, of twins, girls. Mrs. Edmonds, of a son. Lady of capt. J. Canning, of a daughter. Mrs. J. Greenway, of a son. Mr. B. Saunders, of a daughter. Mrs. Bie, of a son. Mrs. G. Chester, of a daughter. Mrs. H. Young, of a son. Mrs. D. D

ling, of a son. Mrs. R. Downie, of a son. Lady of capt. Smith, his majesty's 22d regiment, of a son. Mrs. J. Wemys, of a son. Lady of major R. Houston, of a son.

MARCH.—Mrs. Turnbull, of a daughter. Lady of T. Yeld, Esq. of a son. Lady of lieut. E. Browne, of a daughter. Mrs. W. Augustus, of a daughter. Lady of E. R. Barwell, of a son. Lady of A. H. Alexander, Esq. of a daughter. Madame Lape, of a daughter. Lady of A. Davidson, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Kramer, of a son. Lady of the Rev. W. More, of a daughter.

APRIL.—Lady of J. Orr, Esq. of a son. Lady of E. Strettell, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of P. Duplessy, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of Cornet Sanbolf, his majesty's 24th light dragoons, of a daughter. Lady of J. Ephraim, Esq. of a son. Lady of major-gen. Fuller, of a son. Mrs. Morill, of twins, a boy and a girl. Lady of lieut. Grant, 19th N. I. of a son. Lady of capt. P.T. Lund, of a daughter. Lady of capt. Alexander, of a daughter. Mrs. Balandran, of a daughter. Lady of lieut. Dickson, 8th light dragoons, of a son. Lady of W. Trower, Esq. of a son. Mrs. D. Skinner, of a son. Mrs. S. Tottie, of a son. Lady of J. French, Esq. C. S. of a son.

MAY.—Lady of capt. J. W. Mc Gregor, 2d N. I. of a son Lady of lieut. Mc Leod, engineers, of a son. Mrs. M. Le Brand, of a daughter. Lady of capt. Ferris, artillery, of a son. Mrs. E. M. Sandford, of a son. Mrs. M. Hickman, of a son. Lady of J. Gallanders, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of lieut. Tritton, of the 24th light dragoons, of a daughter. Lady of W. Adamson, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. R. Evans, of a son. Lady of H. I. Fiellerup, Esq. of a daughter.

JUNE.—Lady of lieut. and adjt. Kennedy, of the 5th regiment, N. C. of a daughter. Lady of H. T. Travers, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. J. Perroux, of a daughter. Lady of capt. T. Ross, of the brig Industry, of a son. Mrs. R. Wyatt, of a daughter. Lady of capt. T. Watson, of a daughter. Lady of capt. Johnston, 2d cavalry, of a daughter. Mrs. Wearty, of a daughter.

JULY.—Mrs. H. de Sonza, of a son. Lady of R. K. Dick, Esq. of a son. Lady of capt. Sherwood, artillery, of a son. Lady of G. Blagrave, Esq. C. S. of a daughter. Mrs. Christiana, of a daughter. Mrs. P. Read, of a son. Lady of J. Palmer, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of E. J. Pennington, Esq. of a son. Mrs. B. Rogers, of a daughter. Lady of J. Fullerton, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of capt. H. P. Davies, 11th N. I. of a daughter. Lady of E. Brightmore, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of H. Wood, Esq. C. S. of a daughter. Lady of Mr. G Maxwell, of a daughter. Lady of major J. L. Richardson, of a daughter. Mrs. Roberts, of a daughter.

AUGUST.—Lady of capt. H. Finch, of a daughter. Lady of the Rev. W. Eales, of a daughter. Lady of G. A. D. Dyce, Esq. of a son. Mrs. Stanbury, of a son. Mrs. J. Berry, of a daughter. Mrs. B. Rogers, of a daughter. Lady of capt. A. Duncan, of a son. Mrs. E. Lawrie, of a daughter. Lady of R. Richardson, Esq. of a son. Mrs. M. Arthur, of a son.

SEPTEMBER.—Lady of G. Tytler, of a daughter. Lady Hermetton, of a son. Mrs. E. C. Urguhant, of a son. Lady of A. Ogilvy, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of capt. Owen, of his majesty's 67th regiment, of a daughter.

OCTOBER.—The hon. Mrs. Elliott, of a daughter. Lady of T. Jackson, Esq. his majesty's 14th regiment, of a daughter. Lady of col. J. S. Wood, his majesty's 8th light dragoons, of a daughter. Lady of lieut.-col Loveday, of a daughter. Lady of J. D. Alexander, Esq. of a daughter.

NOVEMBER.—Lady of L. A. Davison, Esq. of a son. Lady of A. Pecira, Esq. of a son. Lady of capt. S. Nation, of a son. Lady of J. Richardson, Esq. of a son. Lady of capt. B. Fergusson, of a son. Lady of R. R. Stubbs, Esq. of a son. Lady of lieut. R. Roche, 25th regiment, N. I. of a daughter. Lady of C. Bayley, Esq. of a son. Lady of lieut. W. Dickson, of a daughter. Lady of G. Murray, Esq. of a son.

DECEMBER.—Lady of J. Lumsden, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of major Muller, of a son. Lady of capt. Taylor, mil. sec. of a son. Mrs. J. Hughes, of a daughter. Lady of J. Corsar, Esq. of a son. Lady of capt. W. Barker, 21st N. I. of a son. Lady of capt. A. Grapan, artillery, of a son. Lady of J. Pereira, artillery, of a daughter. Lady of O. Bie, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of lieu: J. Arrom, of a son. Lady of capt. G. Buner, of a son. Lady of capt. J. Jones, 7th N. C. of a son. Lady of — Blunt, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Brant, of a son. Lady of Dr. Millis, of a son. Lady of lieut. P. Barlow, of his majesty's 22d regiment, of a daughter. Lady of captain Ludlow, of a daughter. Mrs. J. Carlow, of a son. Lady of capt. Blankenhagen, of a daughter. Lady of W. R. B. Bennett, Esq. of a son. Lady of Sir T. Ramsay, Bart. of a daughter. Lady of R. C. Blunt, Esq. of a son. Lady of J. Crump, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of R. Even, Esq. of a son. Mrs. D. Damball, of a daughter. Lady of T. W. Phillips, Esq. of a son. Mrs. E. Hollingbury, of a son. Mrs. H. Martindell, of a son. Lady of capt. Moor, of his majesty's 14th regiment, of a son. Mrs. Chew, of a son. Mrs. Macklin, of a daughter. Lady of R. P. Ochterlony, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of Dr. James Meih, of a son. Mrs. Smethurst, of a son. Mrs. S. Jones, of a son. Mrs. A. Nicholls, of a son. Mrs. E. Johnson, of a son. Lady of T. Mai-

waring. Esq. of a daughter. Lady of capt. Michell, of art. of a daughter. Lady of J. M. Sinclair, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. G. A. Howe, of a son. Mrs. F. Derozio, of a daughter.

JANUARY, 1811.—Lady of G. P. Rickets, Esq. of a son. Lady of major O'Halaran of a son. Mrs. Harton, of a daughter. Mrs. C. M. Davies, of a daughter. Mrs. Rawlins, of a daughter. Lady of C. W. Steer, Esq. of a son, Lady of G. Udny, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of lieut. E. Gwatkins, of a son.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of lieut. G. Nicholetts, of a son. Lady of capt. Piercy, his majesty's 53d regiment, of a daughter.

BENGAL DEATHS.

1810.

JANUARY.—C. Western, esq. Lieut. P. Cockburn, H. M. 22nd foot. Major T. Evans, 2nd bat. 15th reg. N. I. Miss E. Kirkpatrick. Mrs. A. M. Bell. H. Lauder, esq. surgeon. Lady of W. H. Robertson, esq. surgeon, 26th reg. N. I. P. Dusart, esq. Mrs. R. Inglis. Major J. Thornton, 4th N. I. Capt. W. Hessor, 7th N. I. Capt. J. Wales, marine surveyor general. Mr. H. Brown, quartermaster of H. M.'s 14th reg. cavalry. Mrs. R. Inglis. Major J. Thornton, 4th N. I. Mrs. T. J. Metcalf. Mr. Baggott. Mr. W. H. Robertson. H. Harris, esq. C. S.

FEBRUARY.—Capt. J. Wales, Bombay marine. Capt. W. Slessor, 7th regiment, N. I. Major George Benson. Edward D. Paris, esq. H. Brown, esq. H. M.'s 14th reg. Lieut. S. Woolley. Lieut. W. H. Dixon, 1st bat. 9th reg. N. I. Sir A. Seton, bart. P. Moir, esq. Mr. A. Gamboe. C. De Vrinna, esq. Miss A. G. D'Souza. Miss E. Purchase. Mr. T. Lloyd. Mrs. J. Flusker. J. J. Pendergroot, esq. Mr. C. Rordam. Mrs. L. Scallon. Miss M. Breton. — Graham, esq. C. S.

MARCH. Lady of capt. J. Gibbs. J. J. B. Proby, esq. J. S. Smith, esq. Mr. C. Ladd, Mr. R. Lister. Mrs. R. Douceit. Mr. A. Joas. Capt. J. Williams. Capt. Lenon. Mr. Campbell. Major B. L. Grenior, 19th N. I. Ensign Playfair, 24th N. I. Capt. J. Campbell, H. M.'s 34th reg.

APRIL.—Mr. R. Lester. Jamsejee Cookagee. James Reid, esq. Captain James Williams. R. Anderson, esq. surgeon.. Lieut. J. Patterson, 14th N. I. Mr. W. Downes. Miss Shand. Miss M. Stewart. Mr. R. Williams.

MAY.—Mr. J. Clisson, Capt. R. Campbell, country service. Mr. J. G. Huber. Mr. W. Howden. Mrs. A. Riley. Mr. A. Raitt. Mr. E. Pocock. Mr. H. A. Coulon.

JUNE.—Capt. J. Dunlop, country service E. P. Middleton. esq. Capt. Reddish, invalids. H. Couran, esq. capt. P. Ferguson, country service.

JULY.—Capt. A. Wallace, H. M.'s 58th reg. S. Penny, esq. superintending surgeon. Mr. W. Lambert. J. Hunter, esq. C. S. Mr. R. Lambole, ship Charlton, Mrs. M. Gibson. L. De Breuys, esq. Mr. V. Castello. W. Ewer, esq. Mrs. F. Overce. Mr. W. Browne. Lieut. H. Herring, H. M.'s 67th reg. Mr. B. Knox. Mr. R. Kinlock. Mr. J. Guthrie. Mr. D. Marguard, aged 72.

AUGUST.—Miss M. Gibson. Mr. J. Andrews. T. Evans, esq. C. S. Capt. H. Anderson, 12th N. I. Mr. J. Jones, Pilot service.

OCTOBER.—G. Saxon, esq. Lieut. R. S. Guinaud, Artillery. Mrs. Towers. Lady of H. T. Travers, esq. C. S. Mr. W. Robinson, aged 71.

NOVEMBER.—Mr. J. Harrison. Mrs. F. Maston. Lieut. G. Maxwell, 3rd N. I. Mr. H. Lyons, Pensioner, aged 56. R. Alexander, esq. Mrs. J. Graham. Mrs. C. Gilman. Miss J. Feetenby. J. A. Grant, esq. A. Armstrong, esq. assistant-surgeon.

DECEMBER.—Lady of R. Jones, esq. Mr. J. Swanster. Mr. J. Harvey. Mr. T. Raban, supreme court. Mrs. C. Cane. Mr. J. Holland, assistant-surgeon. W. Roxborough, esq. Mr. Alexander Bruce. Mr. R. Williamson. Mrs. Watts. Mr. D. Hooxenham. Ensign St. G. Ashe of the 3rd N. I. Lieut. H. Fench, of the 13th Reg. N. I. Lieut. H. Monro. H. M's. R. Reg. Lieut. Cole. E. Clarke, artillery. Lieut H. Finch. 13th Reg. N. I.

JANUARY, 1811.—Mrs. A. Elias. Count A. Gika. J. F. Hamilton son of Sir F. Hamilton, Bart. M. C. D. Mavrody. Lady of Capt. A. Greene. A. Freet, esq. Maha rajah Sookmay Roy, he died possessed of 50 Lacs of rupees. Hon. C. A. Bruce

P. Innes, esq. Mr. J. Wade. Mr. H. Higgins. Lady of N. Aratoon, esq.
FEBRUARY.—Miss C. Bruce. Capt. H. King, Country service. Capt. J. Elliott. Mr. J. Le Clerc. Lieut. J. Maxwell, H. M. 24th Reg. Mrs. A. Pereira. Mrs. A. E. Pulin. Mr. S. Hogland. Mrs. Moram. F. F. Gale. T. Raban, esq. Capt. Macdonnall, H. M. 89th Reg.

MADRAS MARRIAGES.

1810.

JANUARY.—W. O. Shakespeare, esq. to Miss L. C. Maxtone. Captain T. W. Taylor, his majesty's 24th light dragoons, to Miss A. H. Petrie.

FEBRUARY.—Mr. J. Thacker, to Miss M. Read. Mr. R. N. Beyts to Miss A. Lane. Lieutenant-colonel H. Webber to Miss E. L. L'Ecolier.

MARCH.—Mr. W. Warwick to Miss S Dunn. Captain H. Douesper, H. M.'s 69th regiment, to Mrs. E. Wood. Lieutenant G. H. Budd to Miss E Cole. C. Currie, esq. to Miss C. M. Laidet. Mr. A. Slecher to Miss J. J. Velge.

APRIL.—George Arbuthnot, esq. to Miss E Fraser. Quarter-master J. Rogers, H. M.'s 25th light dragoons, to Mrs. S. Purse.

MAY.—Mr. H. Chapman to Miss A. M. Hall. J. Watts, esq. C. S. to Miss C. Garling.

JUNE.—Lieutenant J. Bunside, 11th N. I. to Miss A. Lang. MrG. Jeffer son to Miss M. Limb.

JULY.—J. Hepburn, esq. C. S. to Miss Bowness.

AUGUST.—W. Hawkey, esq. to Miss M. Ewart. Captain J. Ives to Miss W. Soutters.

SEPTEMBER.—Mr. Egland to Miss A. Durand. Captain B. O. Loane, H. M. Ceylon regiment, to Miss L. D. Jack.

OCTOBER.—Lieutenant F. G. Wade, H. M.'s 25th light dragoons, to Miss M. Ellison. Colonel Wood, B. S. to Miss F. V. Remington. Mr. C. Kesselere to Miss M. Brown. G. Baillie, esq. surgeon, to Miss Webber. Mr. R. Gordon to Miss J. Dobbin.

NOVEMBER.—Colonel R. M. Strange to Miss E. M. Hargrave. Mr. W. Scott to Miss J. Shepperd. Captain J. Hale, 15th N. I. to Miss F. Street.

DECEMBER.—Baron Kutzleben to Mrs. Woolmer. Mr. J. Martin to Miss L. Fonseca.

JANUARY, 1811.—J. Cooke, esq. assistant surgeon, to Miss A. Kinchant. Captain D. Mc'Leod, his majesty's 78th regiment, to Miss L. Berners. Major J. Humphries to Miss E. Barnett. Captain C. Elphinstone, 1st battalion 2d regiment, to Miss P. M. Welch, eldest daughter of major J. Welch.

FEBRUARY.—Mr. J. L. Gotting to Miss J. C. Engel. Mr. G. Robertson, to Miss M. Cabau.

MADRAS BIRTHS.

1810.

JANUARY.—Lady of J. Annesley, esq. surgeon, of a son. The lady of J. Goldie, esq. of a daughter. The lady of captain Barrow, his majesty's 69th regiment, of a daughter. Lady Strange of a daughter. The lady of reverend M. Thompson of a daughter. Lady of Lieutenant-colonel Taylor of a son.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of A. Anstruther, esq. of a son. Mrs. Zscherpel of a daughter. Lady of A. H. Kelso, esq. of a son. Lady of C. Woodcock, esq. of a son. Lady of J. Babington, esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Sherman of a son. Lady of captain E. S. Stevenson, his majesty's 25th regiment of a son. Lady of captain G. Waugh of a son.

MARCH.—Lady of lieutenant A. Tulloh, fort adjutant, of a son. Lady of lieutenant Power of a son. Lady of Lieut. Rundle of a son. Lady of W. Chalmers of a

daughter. Lady of J. A. Neuhronner, esq. of a son.

APRIL.— Lady of J. Bird, esq. of the H. C. civil service, of a daughter. Lady of A. Woodcock, esq. of a daughter. Lady of captain Yates, of the 20th regiment N. I. of a son. Lady of lieutenant Savage of a daughter. Lady of the Reverend C. H. Horst of a son. Lady of major Mandeville of a daughter. Lady of D. Neale, esq. of a daughter. Lady of captain H. Yarde of a daughter. Lady of major G. R. Kelly of a daughter. Lady of assistant surgeon Ford of a son.

MAY.—Lady of A. Falconer, esq. of a son. Lady of W. T. White, esq. of a daughter. Lady of J. Harris, esq. C. S. of a daughter. Lady of lieutenant-colonel Munro, of a daughter. Lady of J. Lefaucheur, esq. of son. Lady Mc Naghten of a son. Lady of G. Briggs, esq. of a daughter. Lady of captain Groube, R. N. of a son. Lady of captain Broome, H. M.'s 22d L. D. of a son. Mrs. Griffiths of a son. Mrs. Bruce of a daughter. Mrs. R. Rhodes of a daughter. Mrs. Wheeden, of a daughter. Lady of W. Cooke, esq. of a still-born child. Lady of lieutenant H. Dixon, 19th N. I. of a son. Lady of I. Irving, esq. A. S. of a daughter.

JUNE.—Lady of W. Horsman, esq. of a daughter. Lady of J. R. Stockdale, esq. of a son. Lady of captain Powell, B. M. of twins. Lady of G. Ricketts, esq. of a son.

JULY.—Lady of lieutenant T. Macleane, of a daughter. Lady of captain J. Simmons of a daughter. Lady of lieutenant J. W. Mallandine of a son. Lady of lieutenant-colonel Brice of a son. Lady of the honourable L. G. K. Murray of a son. Lady of lieutenant Matthews, 19th regiment of a daughter.

AUGUST.—Lady of the late lieutenant M. Smith of a son. Lady of lieutenant-colonel Conway, adjutant-general, of a daughter. Lady of major J. Colebrook, 8th N. I. of a son. Mrs. J. Corner of a son. Lady of Q. M. Henry, his majesty's 69th regiment, of a daughter. Lady of the Reverend Mr. Pohle of a son. Lady of P. R. Cazalet, esq. of a daughter. Lady of M. D. Cockburn, esq. of a son. Lady of the Reverend E. Vaughan of a daughter. Lady of lieutenant Cooper of twin-daughters. Lady of captain Olphets, his majesty's 69th regiment, of a son. Lady of lieutenant Gerard, engineers, of a son.

SEPTEMBER.—Lady of S. T. Goad, esq. of a son. Lady of major M. L. Pereira, of 11th N. I. of a son. Lady of captain J. Hampton, 7th N. I. of a son. Lady of Mr. R. Alexander of a daughter.

OCTOBER.—Lady of Dr. A. McKenzie of a daughter. Lady of captain Frith, artillery, of a daughter. Mrs. Atkinson of a daughter. Lady of lieutenant Oldnall of a son. Lady of J. Stewart, esq. of a son. Lady of captain Kippen of a son. Lady of colonel Durand of a son. Lady of major Keasberry of a son.

NOVEMBER.—Lady of W. Brown, esq. his majesty's 80th regiment, of a son. Lady of captain Jackson, his majesty's 30th regiment, of a son. Lady of major Sturt, his majesty's 80th regiment, of a son. Lady of Aviet Seth, esq. of a daughter. Lady of major-general Warde of a son. Lady of captain Jackson of a son. Lady of lieutenant-colonel Adams, his majesty's 25th L. D. of a son. Lady of E. W. Stevenson, esq. of a son.

DECEMBER.—Lady of E. C. Greenaway, esq. of a son. Lady of major Gurnell of a daughter. Lady of E. W. Fallofield, esq. of a daughter.—Lady of R. Keating, esq. of a daughter. Lady of J. Read, esq. of a daughter. Lady of lieutenant-colonel Webber of a son. Lady of R. Campbell, esq. of a son. Lady of major Bowley of a son.

JANUARY, 1811.—Lady of captain A. R. Hughes, 5th N. I. of a daughter. Lady of A. Flower, esq. of a daughter. Lady of captain Warren, esq. of his majesty's 33d regiment, of a son. Lady of lieutenant-col. Hazlewood of a daughter. Lady of C. Woodcock, esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Branson of a daughter. Lady of major Taynton of a son. Lady of R. H. Young, esq. of a daughter. Lady of Ensign le Rage, of a son.

FEBRUARY.— Lady of captain Seth, his majesty's 19th regiment, of a daughter. Lady of L. H. Stirling, esq. of a daughter. Lady of J. Goldie, esq. of a son. Lady of G. Moore, esq. of a daughter. Lady of major Molesworth of a daughter. Lady of S. Skinner, esq. of a son. Lady of captain S. Smith, 13th N. I. of a son.

MADRAS DEATHS.

1810.

JANUARY.—J. Boodle, Esq. surgeon. At Cochin, madame Sorel, daughter of Sir T. A. Strange. Mr. W. Wheatly. Miss M. C. Patterson, daughter of A. Anstru-

ther, Esq. Lieut. P. Fenoulhet, 2d bat. 14th N. I.

FEBRUARY.—Mr. W. Mellican. Mr. J. W. Pepper. Mr. D. Clarke, musician. Mr. J. Robbins. Mr. J. Gill. Lady of Mr. assistant surgeon T. Brown.

MARCH.—Capt P. Grant, artillery. Capt. W. Smith, nabob's cavalry. Capt. W. Doig. Lady of capt. W. C. Oliver. Mr. A. De Sousa. Miss E. Fredericks.

APRIL. — Lieut. Hunt, of H. M.'s 22d reg. L. D. Capt. Miller, of H. M.'s 22d reg. L. D. Lieut. L. Hook, of H. M.'s 22d reg. of dragoons. H. Fowle, Esq. Ensign J. Alexander, 16th reg. N. I. Lieut. W. Hallowell, 3d Ceylon regt. Lieut. P. L. Lambert, 6th reg. N. I. Lady of major A. Frith, 13th reg. N. I. E. Mackay, Esq. Capt. J. Campbell, of H. M.'s 34th reg. Mr. J. Boand. J. White, Esq. Capt. T. Paske. Lieut. Coton, of the 25th reg. N. I. Lieut. J. Hoby, of the 17th reg. N. I. Mrs. A. A. Young. Lieut. T. Birt, of the 1st bat. artillery. Lieut. Glenholme, 9th reg. N. I. Major McGregor, 5th N. I. Major Fitzpatrick, 21st N. I. G. Maidman, Esq. C. S. W. L. Mayer.

MAY.—J. Strachan, Esq. assistant surgeon. W. Betty, Esq. surgeon. Mr. J. Reilly. Quarter-master T. Wood, H. M.'s 25th L. D. Lieut. J. D. Bateman, 5th N. I. Lieut.-col. Berkely, 4th N. I.

JUNE. — T. Stephens, Esq. Lieutenant Smith, 3d N. I. Mrs. E. Delow. Ensign Scott, 7th N. I.

JULY. — Lieut. Douglas, 17th reg. N. I. Col. Garden, H. M.'s 89th reg. Lieut.-col. Orrock, 6th reg. N. I. E. Kennah, Esq. paymaster of 25th L. D. Ensign G. Storey, 22d N. I. Rev. J. C. Brain, missionary.

AUGUST.—Capt. Sturrock, Persian interpreter. Mrs. F. L. Vanspall. Mrs. Joyce Alexander. G. Anderson, Esq. superintending surgeon, Mysore. Veerasawmey Braminy, a famous chess player. Mr. N. Lee. Mrs. White, wife of J. White, Esq. paymaster of the 89th reg.

SEPTEMBER. — Mrs. H. Correa. Lady of capt. Olphets, H. M.'s 59th regiment. Marcar Johannes Baboon, Esq. aged 80. Lady of G. Paske, Esq. C. S. Dowager M. P. de Mainville, aged 87.

OCTOBER.—Major J. B. Seward, 24th N. I. Major J. F. Wright, 7th N. I. W. R. Irwin, Esq. C. S. Mrs. C. Von Seyer. Mrs. E. Beckmann. Mr. J. Hamilton. Lady of ensign G. Stephenson, adjutant. Lady of W. L. Cane. R. H. Latham, Esq. Mr. J. Jones. Col. M. Martinz. Mrs. Elliot. Lady of capt. Marett.

NOVEMBER.—Lady of the Reverend E. Vaughan. Lady of C. Wetherall, Esq. C. S. Mr. M. Jollie. Lieut. H. Munro, H. M.'s R. R. Mr. F. Lloyd, conductor of artillery. Mr. J. Johnstrup.

DECEMBER.—Lieut. E. Goodbehere, 2d bat. 18th N. I. Lieut. F. Sampson, 5th N. C. Lieut. J. Buchan, 14th N. I. Mr. W. Mills. Lieut.-col. Macdonnell, H. M.'s 33d reg. Major Coates, H. M.'s 69th reg. Lieut.-col. Campbell, H. M.'s 33d reg. Major O'Keefe, H. M.'s 12th reg. Lieut. J. Shawe, 17th N. I.

JANUARY, 1811.—Mrs. M. Green. Mrs. C. Lockhart, wife of col. Lockhart, H. M.'s 30th reg. Major D. McGregor. Mrs. Hindes. Lieut. J. Shaw, 1st bat. 17th reg. N. I. Lieut F. Sampson, 5th reg. N. C.

FEBRUARY.—J. Collins, Esq. C. S. Lieut. R. Kennedy, H. M.'s 25th L. D. Mr. A. S. John, cadet. Lady of John de Fries, Esq. Lieutenant J. W. Oliver, 1st bat. 25th reg. native infantry.

BOMBAY MARRIAGES.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—Mr. J. H. Wiskins, to Mrs. M. Cox. W. Ashburne Morgan, Esq. to Miss M. Ibbetson. Patrick Campbell Baird, Esq. to Miss M. Belmour. Lieut. G. H. Budd, 22d N. I. to Miss E. Cole.

MARCH.—Mr. J. Baxter, to Miss C. Johnson.

APRIL. — Mr. J. W. Reel, to Miss M. Squires.

JUNE.—J. H. Pelly, Esq. to Miss Lewis.

SEPTEMBER.—Capt. J. Timbrel, hon. company's ship, Exeter to Miss H. Armstrong. Mr. J. Ward, to Miss L. Keys.

OCTOBER.—Lieut. J. Livingstone, 9th N. I. to Miss J. Jones.

NOVEMBER.—Mr. E. C. Anderson, to Miss R. Lloyd. Mr. J. B. Wallace, to Mrs. E. Hall.

DECEMBER.—Mr. J. F. de Jesus, to Miss H. Rodrigues. N. Fernandez, Esq. to Miss A. de Souza.

JANUARY, 1811.—Lieut. J. Stewa t Mrs. T. Malcolm.

BOMBAY BIRTHS.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of general Malcolm, of a son. Lady of R. Willis, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Faria, of a daughter.

MARCH.—Lady of S. Orton, Esq. of a son. Mrs. Tucker, of a son. Lady of R. Richards, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of Lieut. A. Tulloh, of a son.

APRIL.—Lady of W. Williams, Esq. of a daughter.

MAY.—Lady of H. Stephenson, Esq. of a son.

JUNE.—Lady of capt. S. Dick, his majesty's 22d reg. of a daughter. Lady of J. Leckie, Esq. of a son.

JULY.—Lady of W. Erskine, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of H. Shanks, Esq. of a daughter. Mrs. Boyce, of a son.

AUGUST.—Lady of C. J. Briscoe, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of capt. D. Supple, H. M.'s 17th L. D. of a daughter. Lady of R. B. Perrin, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of H. W. Diggle, Esq. of a daughter.

SEPTEMBER.—Lady of major J. Smith, of a daughter. Lady of J. Forbes, Esq. of a still-born child.

NOVEMBER.—Lady of D. D. Inglis, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of Mr. J. H. Young, of a daughter.

DECEMBER.—Lady of capt. Webster, of a son. Lady of V. Hale, Esq. of a son. Mrs. Rayer, of a son. Lady of W. A. Morgan, Esq. of a daughter. Lady of W. Kennedy, Esq. of a son. Lady of quarter-master Johnstone, of his majesty's 16th regiment, of a son.

JANUARY, 1811.—Lady of W. Crawford, Esq. of a son. Lady of capt. Sykes, of a daughter. Lady of major Lock, of a son.

BOMBAY DEATHS.

1810.

JANUARY.—Mr. T. Paneutt. W. C. Bunce, Esq. resident. Lieutenant J. C. Page, artillery.

FEBRUARY.—Ensign W. Osborne.

MARCH.—Capt. C. Brown, European reg.

APRIL.—Captain L. Leslie. Lieutenant R. Macdonald, 8th N. I.

JUNE.—Major S. Bayley, his majesty's 56th regt. Ardasier Daddy, a Parsee merchant.

JULY.—Major J. C. Sheen, 5th reg. N. I.

AUGUST.—Captain W. S. Storey, his majesty's 65th reg. Mrs. Patten. Lieutenant T. Denton, marine bat.

SEPTEMBER.—Major S. Carter, artillery. Mr. W. R. Tomkins, quarter-master. Q. M. McCabe, 17th L. D. W. Headly, Esq. surgeon, his majesty's 56th reg.

OCTOBER.—Bhow Ladcoaba, a learned native. Mackertych, an Armenian bishop. Rev. J. Gomes.

NOVEMBER.—Captain S. A. Greenwood, 2d N. I.

DECEMBER.—W. Steadman, Esq. collector at Broach.

JANUARY, 1811.—Lieut. W. E. Hurst, 4th regiment N. I. Lieutenant Walter, 6th native infantry.

FEBRUARY.—H. W. Diggle, Esq. Ensign R. Elliott, his majesty's 56th reg. Ensign Raisback, his majesty's 56th regiment.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND BIRTH.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of J. Hall, Esq. of a son.

PRINCE OF WALES'S ISLAND DEATHS.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—J. Sealy, Esq. Mr. J. Hickson. J. Southwood. J. Rauly, Esq. Hon. G. A. Bruce, governor of Prince of Wales's Island, &c. &c. P. Innes, Esq.

CHINA DEATH.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of T. T. Medcalfe, Esq. C. S. China.

CEYLON MARRIAGES.

1810.

JANUARY.—T. Eden, Esq. to Miss F. E. Rodney. Lieutenant-colonel the hon. F. Stuart, his majesty's 19th regiment, to Miss C. H. Rodney. Lieutenant H. A. Harvey, to Miss M. A. Giesler.

CEYLON BIRTHS.

1810.

FEBRUARY.—Lady of capt. Hook, of his majesty's 2d Ceylon regiment, of a daughter.

JUNE.—Lady of lieutenant Ingham, 3d C. R. of a daughter. Lady of W. Montgomery, Esq. C. S. of a son.

CEYLON DEATHS.

1810.

JUNE.—Lieutenant W. Hollowell, his majesty's 3d Ceylon regiment. Padre Gabriel Pacheco. Lady of A. H. Giesler, Esq.

THE

RIGHT HON. THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

FOR THE

AFFAIRS OF INDIA.

Right Honourable Lord Viscount Melville, President.

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Earl of Liverpool,	Secretaries	Rt. Hon. Lord Teignmouth,
Marquis Wellesley,	of	Rt. Hon. Thos. Wallace,
Rt. Hon. Richard Ryder,	State.	Viscount Lowther.
Rt. Hon. Spencer Perceval,		

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Chamber-keeper, T. Pocknell.

THE

HONOURABLE THE COURT OF DIRECTORS

OF THE

EAST INDIA COMPANY,

For the Year 1811.

Jacob Bosanquet, Esq.
Sir Hugh Inglis, Bart.
Charles Mills, Esq. M. P.
Abraham Robarts, Esq. M. P.
The Hon. William Fullarton Elphinstone.
Robert Thornton, Esq. M. P.
Sir Theophilus Metcalfe, Bart.
Joseph Cotton, Esq.
Edward Parry, Esq.
Richard Chicheley Plowden, Esq.
John Huddlestone, Esq.
John Inglis, Esq.
Thomas Reid, Esq.
John Bebb, Esq.
George Millett, Esq.
James Pattison, Esq.
George Abercrombie Robinson, Esq.
John Alexander Bannerman, Esq.
Robert Williams, Esq.
William Wigram, Esq. M. P.
R. Twining, Esq.
S. Davis, Esq.
James Daniell, Esq.
J. B. Taylor, Esq.

The Chairman and Deputy-Chairman are of all Committees.

PROCEEDINGS AT THE INDIA HOUSE,

FOR 1810-11.

EAST INDIA HOUSE.

Wednesday, April 11th.

A court of directors was held at the East India house, when a ballot was taken for the election of six directors for four years, in the room of the honorable W. F. Elphinstone, J. Inglis, J. Bebb, J. Pattison, J. Daniell, and J. B. Taylor, esqrs. who go out by rotation. At six o'clock the glasses were finally closed, and delivered to the scrutineers, who reported the election to be in favour of Jacob Bosanquet, esq. Joseph Cotton, esq. Edward Parry, esq. Thomas Reid, esq. Robert Thornton, esq. and Richard Twining, esq.

The following persons were appointed members of the government of Fort St. George, viz.—Sir G. H. Barlow, bart. K. B. governor; lieutenant-general Sir S. Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and second in council; T Oakes, esq. third, and J. H. Cassamajor, esq. fourth in council. — H. Brown, esq. was appointed president of the select committee of supra cargoes at Canton, as were J. Fullarton Elphinstone, and W. Parry, esqrs. members of the said committee.

The thanks of the court were voted to Chas. Grant and Wm. Astell, esqrs. chairman and deputy chairman, for their unremitting attention to the company's affairs during the last year.

Friday, April 13*th.*

A general special court of proprietors of East India stock was held at their house, Leadenhall-street, William Astell, esq. the chairman, in the chair.

DEPOSED WRITERS, CADETS, &c.

The minutes of the court of directors being read over, and an abstract of the bye-laws being also read, agreeably to the usual practice at the first meeting after the choice of directors,

The *Chairman* moved, that the resolution of the court of directors for re-admitting Henry Gardner, a student in the East India college, destined for the Madras establishment, who had been dismissed in consequence of his nomination having been procured by corrupt practices, of which, however, it appeared that he himself was ignorant, but who had been re-appointed by James Daniell, esq. one of the directors, be agreed to.

Mr. *Rock* expressed his high approbation of the resolution. He hoped to see every one of the young men who stood in this unfortunate situation restored. If there were any of them, which he much feared was the case, who had no personal friends among the directors to restore them to their situations, he sincerely trusted that the court in general would take the case of those who were thus unhappily situated into their consideration, and would, as a body, extend to them that sympathy and commiseration, to which they were entitled, in consequence of a punishment inflicted on them for offences of which they were innocent, at least in the moral guilt of which they had no participation.

The resolution of the court of directors was then unanimously agreed to.

PETITION TO PARLIAMENT FOR AID.

The *Chairman* informed the court of proprietors that the present court had been made special for the purpose of perusing a petition proposed to be presented to the House of Commons on the subject of the company's affairs. He should not detain the court with offering any observations in support of

the petition, but should simply propose that it be read, reserving to himself to deliver his sentiments on the occasion, if, unexpectedly, any objection or doubt should arise on the subject.

The petition was then read.—It refers to the petition presented by the company to the House of Commons, in April, 1808, and states the fact that 1,500,000l. was then granted to them by parliament, towards the demand claimed by the company against the country. This sum, with the sales which were more favourable than had been expected, the petition goes on to state, prevented the necessity of the company's applying for assistance in any other quarter. The revenue of the company for the year 1809-10, there was every reason to suppose, would be nearly equal to the claims to be made against it. The extraordinary calls on the company, however, had not yet ceased.—These arose, first from drafts from India, to the amount of 4,900,000l. on account of the wars carried on there; and 2dly, from losses in their shipping, during the last year, amounting, in the two articles of merchandize at prime cost, and of freight, to 1,048,000l. From prospective estimates which had been made for the year 1809-10, it appeared, that in this way the sums to be expended would exceed the income to the amount of about 2,083,000l. which the company could not raise from its own resources; nor were its funds ever equal, at any one time, to the expences of carrying on the government in India, in time of war. The accounts to last March, however, shewed that the funds of the company in England exceeded the debts, to the amount of four millions eight hundred and twenty-two thousand pounds, which sum they hoped would be equal to cover any advances made by the honourable the House of Commons.

The petition being read,

The *Chairman* moved, that this petition be presented to the House of Commons.

Mr. *Rock* suggested, as the present petition referred to a petition formerly presented by the company on the same subject, and as there were many proprietors now present who might not have been present when the former petition was before them, that it too should be now read.

Mr. *Grant* (the late chairman), observed, that the one petition did not at all hang on the other. He had no objection, however, that the former petition should be read.

Mr. *Rock* presumed to think that the reading of the former petition would prove satisfactory to the court. He, for one, could answer that it would prove so to him.

The *Chairman* contended, that the former petition had nothing to do with the present question. The former petition had been presented for specific purposes, which were already answered.

Mr. *Rock* still insisted that the petition in April, 1808, should be read.

On this a shew of hands was taken, when the proposition was declared to have been negatived.

The petition was then approved of. It was ordered that the seal of the company be affixed to it; and that it be presented to the House of Commons by the Chairman.

On the motion of Mr. *Grant* the court then immediately adjourned.

Wednesday, June 20.

A general special court of the proprietors of India stock was held at the India house.

The *Chairman* declared a dividend of five and a half per cent. on the capital stock of the company, from the 5th of January last to the 5th of July next, which was agreed to.

Agreeably to one of the company's bye-laws, the titles of the different papers, connected with the company's affairs, lately laid before the two houses of parliament, were read, among others, the different comparative statements of the annual charge and annual revenue of the company, in the different presidencies, for three years, 1805-6, 1806-7, and 1807-8, and estimates for the year 1808-9.

Mr. *Randle Jackson* asked, if the

ıole papers laid before parliament ere now on the table of that court?

The *Chairman* stated, that all the paers laid before the House of Commons ad been produced to the court. There ere other papers submitted to the elect committee of the House of Comnons, the titles of which it had not een thought necessary now to read to he court.

Mr. *Kemble* said, it was his intenion to have moved that the accounts elative to the state of the company's fairs should have been referred to committee of the directors, or of ie proprietors, for the purpose of eparing an accurate and complete 'ement of the same; but, as he unrstood from the titles of the papers ad, that these accounts were preared by the company itself, and not by the committee of the House of Commons, he did not think it necessary o follow up his intention.

Mr. *Randle Jackson* said, he had ot asked if all the titles, but if all he papers, were on the table, so that heir contents could be accessible to he proprietors.

Mr. *Grant* said, all the papers which had been laid before the House of Commons, in consequence of an order from he Speaker, were before the court. Those which had been produced withut any order were not now produced, ut they might be added if the court equired them.

Mr. *Rock* begged to ask if Sir George Barlow had received instruction from he government at home for his late onduct, in which case it must be unerstood that the responsibility did not ttach to him; or if he acted on his own auth rity?

The *Chairman* thought the question irregular, as the business could not now be discussed. In justice to Sir George Barlow, he must say, that his conduct had been the result of instructions from the supreme government of India, and from this country.

Mr. *Randle Jackson* thanked the honourable chairman for the candour of his communication on so delicate a subject. He begged to take this opportunity of recommending to gentlemen, before the next session of parliament, to make it their business, as far as was possible, to understand the situation of their own affairs. There was a spirit prevailing to decry corporate bodies, and to treat their property with less ceremony than the property of private persons.—He was sorry to observe, that this spirit was encouraged even by those gentlemen who had been used to argue most loudly in favour of liberty and property. He begged that the court of directors, and also the proprietors, would apply their minds to this subject, and by acquainting themselves thoroughly with the state of the company's affairs, they would easily be enabled to shew, as between themselves and the public, if any thing arose at present to embarras the affairs of the company, it originated in their exertions for the public, and was to be attributed solely to the public account. A strange and strong antipathy had lately seized certain public characters against the monied interests, whether annuitants or dealers — but this was principally directed against two corporate bodies, of whom the company was one. He knew how soon such a feeling took possession of the public mind — he was anxious, however, that he and his fellow proprietors should be informed, as far as it was possible to be, on the state of the company's affairs. The people of England were radically right, and would not willingly lend themselves to injustice. Let the proprietors but understand their own affairs, and with that species of armour against the attacks of their enemies they might depend on success.

The *Chairman* then moved, that the court of proprietors do approve of the resolution of the directors, as to the fate of the four ships, the Calcutta, Jane, Duchess of Gordon, Lady Jane Dundas, and Bengal. The 4th of July was fixed for taking the ballot on these four cases.

Mr. *Jackson* alluding to the numerous captures of the company's vessels, declared his conviction that the only way to remedy this evil was by making it worth the while of our privateers

to capture the privateers of the enemy. It was quite the policy of our enemy, knowing he had no trade of his own, to let loose probably 40,000 men, or whatever other number he had in the privateering service, knowing such was the despotic nature of his government, that he could recover them at pleasure, and that this was the very best and boldest education which he could confer upon them to qualify them at any after period for his marine service.

Mr. *Rigby* approved the sentiments expressed by the honourable and learned gentleman. He wished also to know what answer had been made by the admiralty on the subject of regulating the impressing of men from the company's ships?

The *Chairman* assured the worthy proprietor that the answer was perfectly satisfactory.

Cadets, &c. dismissed.

The *Chairman* was happy to propose to the court to approve of a resolution of the court of directors, restoring to the service of the company, in the capacity of a writer, Mr. Magniac, who had been again presented by an individual director.

Mr. *Jackson* asked if there was any particularly distinguishing circumstance in this case.

The *Chairman* said there surely was this distinguishing circumstance, that it having been agreed that those might be restored who could procure the patronage of an individual director, it had been the good fortune of this young gentleman, and of others, to procure this individual nomination, while some others had been less fortunate.

Mr. *Jackson* said, it had been resolved that sixteen young gentlemen, whose nominations had been procured by corrupt practices, should be dismissed, under a reservation that they should not be deemed incapable of being again admitted to the company's service, if presented by any individual director on his own patronage. It surely, however, was not the meaning of the directors, or of that court, that presentations should fly out to India, for the purpose of restoring those young men before their being recalled home, and inquiry made into each individual case? It had been his own intention, after these young men should have arrived in this country, to move it as a recommendation to the court of directors, that all those among them who were innocent should be restored to the service; but he could not think that a gentleman who had friends, and possessed accomplishments such as Mr. Magniac was known to be possessed of, should be restored, while other young men, who had no friends, but were equally innocent, should be suffered to fall victims to this general error of the whole. He felt conscious of no feeling on this occasion, except a desire to uphold the authority of the court of directors, to which they themselves did not seem sufficiently attentive. He had no wish, however, to oppose the present motion. He should not even move any thing this day on the subject, but when the other persons dismissed should arrive in this country, should humbly recommend to the directors, that they would condescend to re-examine into the case of each, and that those who should be found personally innocent should be restored, not as an act of individual patronage, but as an aggregate act.

Mr. *Sansom* was satisfied that it was highly proper, that all those who were not personally culpable should be restored; but this he thought might be done without subjecting the young men to the cruelty and expence of bringing them back to this country. The inquiry could be carried on here as effectually as in India. He was satisfied that the humanity of the directors would be extended to every one, except in the case where manifest fraud had been practised by the party himself. If all were to be brought to this country, there would be some of them who could not be restored, as being above the age.

Mr. *Rock* said, if peremptory orders had been dispatched for bringing them home, they must now be on their way.

Mr. *Grant* thought that the two great objects in view when the resolution was passed had been obtained, namely, to strike an example to deter from such practices in future, and to vindicate the character of the company. These being effected, he did not see any necessity for all of them being brought home. The directors had inquired and were satisfied as to the innocence of the parties now proposed to be restored. They had been restored by a valuable sacrifice of individual patronage, which was the test required to shew that, there was no corruption in the case.

Mr. *Rigby* thought it possible that all the young gentlemen might be restored without calling on the directors to make a sacrifice of individual patronage.

Mr. *R. Williams* (director) having discharged his duty in the first instance, should feel gratified in seeing every one of the young men who was himself innocent, restored. If the honourable and learned gentleman (Jackson) should either now or at any other time, make such a motion he should second it.

Mr. *Bosanquet* was of opinion that the directors would listen to any proposition recommending mercy, but thought it should not be done in a moment.

Mr. *Twining* concurred in expressing his conviction that, if a recommendation to this effect were made to the directors, it would be attended to.

Mr. *Jackson* did not wish to deprive the directors of the grace of that mercy which would so well become them, and which he wished to see flow spontaneously. If they did not fol low up his expectations he should not esteem himself precluded from again bringing the matter forward; but the directors, as their own act, would re-appoint those young men; he knew it would be highly gratifying, at the same time that it was the most constitutional mode of proceeding. Where the authority was, there he wished the grace to continue also.

Mr. *G. Smith* was certain all those whom it was proper to re-appoint, would be so re-appointed by the individual directors. Two writers, and one cadet, were to be reported this day. There only remained six cadets, one of whom could not be restored, and the remaining five, he had no doubt, would be re-appointed in the course of the next year.

The motion for confirming the re-appointment of Mr. Magniac was then put and carried; as was a motion for confirming the re-appointment of Mr. E. J. Smith, also a writer; and Mr. Williams, a cadet.

The appointment of an assistant in the oriental department of the military establishment of the company at Woolwich, with a salary of 250*l.* a year, was approved of.

The *Chairman* informed the meeting that this court had been made special, on account of a petition which had been presented to the House of Commons, in consequence of which a bill had passed both houses of parliament, ordering a grant of $1\frac{1}{2}$ million of exchequer bills for the assistance of the company.

Also to state, that another petition had been presented to the House of Commons, praying that the accounts between the country and company should be revised, which petition had been referred to a committee.

This petition being read, Mr. *R. Jackson* complimented the directors for the attention and care which had been here shewn to the interests of the company. By such clear and intelligible developements of the real situation in which they stood with the public, the calumnies of their enemies would quickly be made apparent. —The court then adjourned.

Wednesday, September 26th.

A general quarterly court was held at the East India house. A resolution of the court of directors, relative to the expences of the East-India college, the education of the students, and their examination in an open court of directors, as to their progress and fitness for their appointments, was read to the proprietors for their approbation.

Mr. *Randle Jackson* requested that this paper might remain on the table, for the perusal of the proprietors till the next general court, as he should then, perhaps, have a motion to submit on the subject. After what had been formerly said on the outside of the bar, relative to the education of those who might hold situations of high trust in India, he hoped it would be unnecessary to dwell on that point now. They were friendly to the good education of their fellow-citizens in general, but they had proved themselves in an especial manner sensible of the value of a good moral and learned education, with respect to those who might have the most important and difficult duties to perform, not only to the company but to the public. It could not, of course, be their desire that any thing should be done inconsistent with the full efficiency of the plan devised for that purpose. But if any alteration could be made in the mode of execution, perfectly consistent with its efficacy, but at the same time calculated to save the time of the directors, he presumed, it would be considered as an alteration for the better. It could not be imagined that he was influenced by any distrust of the directors, whatever alteration he might propose; for it was but justice to them to say, that from the moment the late exposure had been made of the disgraceful mode in which appointments had been sometimes obtained, they had strenuously applied themselves to the investigation of the abuse, and the removal of its cause, by taking the most proper steps to prevent the recurrence of such shameful proceedings in future. But the time of the directors was the time of the proprietors, and ought to be spared as much as possible. To enable the proprietors to judge correctly of the convenience, which, he presumed, would result from the alteration he intended to propose, it was desirable that the paper should, in the mean time, remain on the table, to be perused in detail, and he hoped there would be no objection to agree with the request he had made.

The *Chairman* (Mr. Bosanquet) thought there could be no objection to the proposition.— With regard to the disgraceful proceedings to which the learned gentleman had adverted, he trusted that the late act of parliament, by which the engaging in this traffic had been made a misdemeanour —with the necessity of a bond with three thousand pounds penalty, would render such proceedings in future impossible. He allowed that any alteration in the mode of carrying into execution the plan for the education of their students, &c. which should save the time of the directors, would be an improvement, provided it did not detract from its efficiency and utility, and the court would be happy to hear any proposition from the learned gentleman on that subject. The paper was then laid on the table.

The next point which occupied the attention of the court was the resolution for confirming the re-appointments by individual directors of certain cadets, who had fallen under the displeasure of the court, in consequence of its appearing that their appointments had been at first obtained by improper methods.

Mr. *R. Jackson* said, that he understood this to include all the cases, except that disgraceful one which had been carried through the court by fraud—(to this the chairman assented). Mr. J. then expressed his approbation of this proceeding. He understood that the appointments were to be dated from the period of the last nomination, and not the first. This would make the matter felt in India as well as here —while he thought the directors had shewn as much lenity as was consistent with the duties of their situation.

The resolution was unanimously agreed to, after which the court adjourned.

PROCEEDINGS IN PARLIAMENT

RELATIVE TO THE

AFFAIRS OF INDIA,

DURING

THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE SECOND PARLIAMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOMS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Tuesday, Feb. 20th.

EAST INDIA AFFAIRS.

Mr. *Dundas* moved for a select committee to enquire into the state of East India affairs, and report their opinion thereon.

Mr. *Creevey* did not see any good that could arise from the committee proposed. He pronounced the affairs of the company to be in a very declining state, and was not aware of any good consequence that could result from the appointment of the committee.

Mr. *Wallace* argued, that a select committee was the best means that could be devised of bringing the state of the East India company before the house.

Lord *A. Hamilton* concurred in the opinion of Mr. Creevey.

Mr. *S. Dundas* observed, that the charter of the East India company would not expire until the year 1814, and that the company was entitled to three years notice of any intention to rescind it. But as no such notice was yet intended to be given, it was material that parliament should be made acquainted with the state of the company's affairs.

The motion was agreed to, and a select committee appointed, consisting of twenty-one members, with the usual powers.

Friday, March 30th.

SIR G. BARLOW.

Mr. *Creevey* asked, if any steps had been taken on the part of government for the recal of Sir George Barlow from the government of Madras? If not, he meant to give notice of a motion on that subject.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer*, in an under tone, returned an answer, but it was quite impossible to collect the import of it.

Mr. *Creevey* said, as he understood no step for the recal of that gentleman was in contemplation, he now gave notice that he should, on this day fortnight, move for the production of all papers and correspondence between Sir George Barlow and the government of this country, &c. relative to the late occurrences in India.

Friday, May 4th.

MUTINY AT MADRAS, &c.

Mr. *Creevey* rose, pursuant to notice, to move for certain documents with regard to the late rebellion among the military at Madras; and also with regard to some transactions which took place last year in the courts at Madras, with which the Madras government was closely connected. The honourable member proceeded to comment upon the deplorable consequences likely to result from the native troops being witnesses to the mutiny and rebellion on the part of the British officers. He confessed that little short of a miracle could have sustained our empire in India. His chief motive in bringing the business before the House was, to ascertain to the satisfaction of the country, who were right and who were wrong, in a contest of such seri-

ous moment. He would not prejudge the question—he would not pass any premature opinion on the conduct of Sir G. Barlow, but he would say, that be his conduct what it might, however oppressive or unjust, it could not justify rebellion on the part of the military. The honourable member then proceeded to detail the alleged ground of complaint against the government of India; first, with respect to the military insubordination; next in relation to the abuses said to have prevailed in the judicial and civil department of Madras. He stated, that it had been affirmed, that the special jury, who had decided upon the justice of the claims of the nabob of the Carnatic, had been malevolently persecuted, and some of them punished, under the pretence of transferring them to distant stations. A third ground of inquiry was the removal of Mr. Petrie, who had been forty-four years resident at Madras, and had been uniformly opposed to the councils of Sir George Barlow. This was the more necessary to inquire into, as he believed the court of directors had divided equally upon that question. He appealed to the House, if it were unreasonable to ask for information upon questions of such importance? He then concluded with moving, that there be laid on the table of that House copies of all the correspondence, between the commander in chief and governor in council of Madras, relative to the arrest of lieutenant-colonel Munro, and the definitive authority of the commander in chief in courts martial.

Sir *Henry Montgomery*,—SIR, In rising to second the motion of the honourable gentleman, I beg it may be distinctly understood, that I do not by any means intend, or do I wish to justify, the late violent proceedings of part of the Madras army. Sir, its conduct is not defensible; but, from a long and intimate acquaintance with that army, and knowing, as I do, its loyalty, its intrinsic worth, and the brilliant and valuable services it has achieved for this country, I am well convinced it was not a common injury that could have driven such an army to such acts of desperation.

Sir, as I understand the papers now asked for will not be refused, it may probably be thought unnecessary for me to touch on the subject of their contents; they will be found very voluminous; but they will, I trust, be read with great attention by every member of this House; for they will disclose a detail of systematic tyranny, oppression, and studied insult, hitherto unknown in British India; and probably never practised to the same extent in any quarter of the globe. They will shew men, whom Sir George Barlow, and his government, had declared to have lost its confidence, and who had been removed from their official situations of auditor of accounts, and of secretary; and in the same letter, announcing this opinion, appointed, against their consent, to what I am sure this House will think offices of much greater importance,—judges to decide on the lives and property of our fellow subjects!—when at the very moment he must have been informed, that neither of these gentlemen knew a syllable of the language of the country, or of the law they were to administer. Both these gentlemen, however, had more prudence and virtue than Sir G. Barlow; for they preferred being without an office, to entering on duties they were incapable of performing, although tempted with a salary of 4,000l. a year.

But what, Sir, will be the feelings of the house, and the country, when we know that the sacred trial by jury has been violated, jurymen of high respectability, degraded and punished for a conscientious discharge of their duty, and prosecutors, in support of their fame and fortune, banished the settlement. In short, Sir, a perusal of those papers will unfold a scene of iniquity, inhumanity, and a perversion of justice, which, if attempted in this country, would create a revolution.

Sir H. Montgomery seconded the motion.

Mr. *Dundas* objected to the volu-

minous matter referred to in the motion, and proposed to substitute in its place a motion for the correspondence between the court of directors and the commander in chief and council, together with their respective enclosures. He said that the government in India had only acted under peremptory orders sent out from this country. He did not accuse the officers of a deliberate intention to rebel. He believed they had not originally foreseen the calamitous consequences of their first step of insubordination. He passed a high eulogium on Sir George Barlow, to whose undaunted firmness he attributed the salvation of the British interests in India. He thought it better we should be without an acre in India, than hold that territory at the will of a licentious soldiery. He very much questioned the soundness of that cause which could resort to squibs, pasquinades in the newspapers, and paragraphs of such description, to support it. With respect to the correspondence, the copies of which he proposed to move for, he must except from that such private letters as had been intercepted in the course of the rebellion by the stoppage of the Post; many of them were letters of a criminal nature; but their publication now could only do individuals harm, without working any public good. He vindicated the persons who acted as commissioners upon the Carnatic claims, and said, that in the case of Mr. Petrie, the court had not decided so much in exclusion of him who had all along opposed the councils of the governor, as in preference of others who had acted with him.

Lord *A. Hamilton* was anxious for the production of every information upon a subject of such importance.

Sir *J. Anstruther*, from the experience of eight years personal intimacy, bore testimony to the firmness, justice, temper, and moderation of Sir G. Barlow.

Sir *T. Turton* did not deny Sir G. Barlow firmness, but thought there might yet be a question whether that firmness had been laudably exerted. His Majesty's ministers, for instance, exhibited great firmness certainly, but it was in obstinately resisting and insulting the wishes of the people.

Mr. *Grant* was astonished that gentlemen could be hurried into such unjustifiable vehemence, as to prejudge the case before the proper documents upon which alone their opinions could be justly founded, were before them. He passed a warm eulogium upon the character and conduct of Sir G. Barlow.

Mr. *Grenfell* and Mr. *Isdell* spoke in support of the propriety of bringing the question before parliament.

Mr. *P. Moore* called the attention of gentlemen to this one fact, that Sir G. Barlow had, on taking upon him the government of Madras, found there one of the best-disciplined and most loyal armies of any in the empire. What had since fallen out was but too notorious. That very army had at that period received the thanks of the House for having added another world to their empire.

Mr. *Lushington* could not help thinking that the conduct of Sir G. Barlow had been unnecessarily harsh.

Mr. *Creevey* then shortly replied, and stated, that with respect to squibs and pamphleteering, the governor had had his pamphleteer on this side of the water, whose production had first directed his close attention to this subject. He agreed, however, to Mr. Dundas's proposition, and the motion for the correspondence between the court and the governor in council, was then put and carried nem. con.

MACAO EXPEDITION.

Tuesday, May 8th.

Mr. *Prendergast* rose to move for papers respecting the origin and conduct of the expedition to the Portuguese settlement at Macao. He gave a statement of the conduct of that expedition, from which it appeared, that admiral Drury had taken possession of the place in opposition to the wishes of the Portuguese governor, and hoisted the British flag, &c.—that he had unwarrantably threatened and insulted the Chinese, who had opposed the proceeding—that in an

attack a British boat had been taken by the Chinese, in the recovery of which by the British, twenty-five Chinese had been (we think he said) killed or wounded—that the British had been exposed to odium and contempt in this business—and our valuable commerce with China endangered. It was proper that the house should know who were to blame in this transaction; and therefore he moved—first, for copies of dispatches to the admiralty and the court of directors, relative to this expedition—second, copies of communications by the admiralty to admiral Drury, on the reports which they received respecting this expedition—third, copies of all orders and opinions sent by the directors or the board of controul to the governor-general of Bengal, or the supercargoes at Canton, relative to the occupation of Macao. He stated that he would willingly be one of a committee to select the proper papers from a great mass which he knew might be comprehended under these motions.

Mr. *Dundas* said, the detail of the course of the expedition was correct, as far as it went. But circumstances had been omitted which altered the complexion of the case. When there was reason to apprehend that the British would be excluded from the Portuguese ports before the removal of the royal family of Portugal to the Brazil, orders had been sent out to take the Portuguese settlements in the east (afterwards countermanded) by force, if necessary, except Macao, which was not to be taken without the concurrence of the Chinese, and it was imagined that the Chinese would willingly accept of our assistance to repel a hostile attack of the French on the settlement, if that should be attempted. The governor-general was apprized by the committee of supercargoes at Canton that the French were preparing to attack the place, and that it might be taken possession of by us, with the concurrence of the Chinese as he understood. It was necessary to act immediately, without waiting for further orders, and the governor sent admiral Drury, who acted in concert with the supercargoes, till they were convinced that further perseverance would be useless. He conceived that no blame attached to the governor-general or the admiral. He agreed with the honourable gentleman as to the importance of preserving our Chinese commerce—but under all the circumstances, he thought there was no occasion for these papers, which were very voluminous, and he would therefore oppose the motion.

Mr. *G. Johnstone* disapproved of the occupation of the territory in question. The island was 100 miles in circumference; the Portuguese did not occupy above ten miles in circumference of it; the Chinese only allowed them one week's provisions at a time, so that we had no occasion to dread the French getting, or if they did get, retaining possession of it.

Mr. *Wallace* thought that no sufficient case had been made out to induce the house to order such a mass of papers to be produced.

Sir Home Popham thought if there was any inconvenience in producing all the papers called for, there could, at least, be no objection in producing those which related to the supercargoes, the marine service, and the commander in chief.

Mr. *C. Grant* reprobated the motion, as tending to lead the Chinese to suppose that we were in a state of servility to them. Such conduct could not tend to render them more conciliatory.

Mr. *Prendergast* replied.

Mr. *Dundas* and Mr. *Prendergast* mutually explained.

Mr. *Astell* opposed the motion.

The gallery was cleared, but no division took place, and the motion was negatived.

Monday, May 14th.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Mr. *Astell* presented a petition from the East India company, which was received and read.—It was of considerable length, and took a retrospective view of the connection between

the India company and the British government since the year 1793; stating, that upon the expences produced by several expeditions which had been undertaken, debts were incurred on both sides, which were never clearly balanced and liquidated; but that a considerable balance was due to the company, which they now prayed to have examined by the house, and any balance that might appear due to them paid.

Leave was given to present a petition pursuant to the prayer of this petition; which was accordingly presented and read: and Mr. Astell moved that it be referred to the committee appointed to consider of the affairs of the East India company.

Mr. *Creevey* rose, to offer some observations upon the statements alleged in this petition. It stated, that the government was in debt to the East India company, on account of the expences incurred in the last war; but their account was referred to a committee in the year 1805, who reported that the amount of the balance then due to the company was 2,300,000l. Out of this they were paid two millions, and there still remained a balance in their favour of 300,000l. But in the next year the company produced a new statement, in which they swelled this balance to 1,500,000l. making their original claim, instead of 2,300,000l. 3,800,000l. He denied that such a thing ought to have been done; it was done, however, and now they came forward with a new claim for 1,900,000l. alleged to be due on this stale account. They seemed totally to forget that in fact, the public owed them nothing He could easily understand that, wanting this sum, they preferred claiming it as a debt, to asking for it in any other shape; because if it was granted to them in the shape of a debt, it would be got by a single motion; whereas in any other way, the progress would be circuitous, and liable to be impeded by much discussion. It was now just four years since any discussion of the company's affairs took place in that house; for they had been now four years without bringing forward any budget, although they had, in successive years, claimed and obtained large sums in advance, on pretence of answering the exigencies of the moment. All, in fact, that parliament knew of the East India company for the last four years, was from its petitions on their journals. In the year 1807, a bill passed for enabling them to borrow 2,000,000l. In the following year, another bill passed for enabling them to raise 1,900,000l.; they stated again last year that they wanted another 2,000,000l. to meet the exigencies of the occasion, and yet another session had passed without their submitting to the house any general state of their affairs, owing to the want of which it was impossible for the house to come to a full and fair discussion upon a subject so important. He considered the present claim as one of the most preposterous that ever was offered to parliament, and he trusted the house would grant the company nothing until a full account of the state of their affairs was produced and investigated. The law positively required, that before any dividend was made of their profits, they should clear their accounts with the public; and yet, although no such clearance had been made, the company were now dividing on their last year's profit $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.—He hoped, therefore, the house would come to some decisive issue upon the subject.

Mr. *Grant* said there was one topic from which the honorable gentlemen generally abstained, when speaking of the affairs of the company, namely, the justice due to them. He (Mr. Grant), however, would maintain, that they had a just claim to a very considerable balance in their favour, and that the true balance due to them in 1808 was 1,500,000l. and that the company had never acceded to the statement, as laid down by the honorable gentleman. They desired only to appeal to the justice of the house; they asked only a fair examination of their accounts, and if any balance should appear due to them,

that they might receive it. It was said, on a recent occasion, that the doors of that house should be opened wide to petitions, and he hoped the India company were as fairly entitled to the extension of such an indulgence as any other description of people. If any money was due to them it ought to be paid. The honorable gentleman, he was sure, would not contend that no balance was due; and he trusted the House of Commons would not close its ears against just claims offered in respectful language.

Lord *A. Hamilton* spoke a short time, but was not distinctly audible from the gallery; we understood him to speak on the same side with Mr. Creevey.

The *Chancellor of the Exchequer*, in answer to some allusion from Mr. Creevey, with respect to his interference in the last claim of the company for a loan of two millions, said, he had not encouraged the company in that application by any thing like a pledge of the sanction of the government; nor by any opinion that the country at large would favour it; but what the House of Commons would do upon a petition submitted to them, he could not say. It did, however, appear to him, that the company had a right to an opportunity of having their claims fairly examined and equitably adjusted.

Mr. *Whitbread* said, that although the accounts between the government and the India company had not been completely liquidated, that balances ought to be struck from time to time. The honorable gentleman opposite to him had said, that the company did not think themselves fairly dealt by in the last settlement of their account. The president of the board of controul was the same person then as now; so was the Chancellor of the Exchequer. They made no objection to the former settlement; and if that was their opinion at the time, he did not see what right the company had now to their sanction, in coming forward, and claiming a new investigation upon an account already settled two years ago.—The right honorable gentleman (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) said, that on the former occasion he withheld his own countenance from their claim. But had they no opportunity of conversation with him since; had they not before received his former refusal to support their claim? And yet two years after the account was closed, they are allowed to come forward with the countenance of the right honorable gentleman, and again set up their claim, which he (Mr. Whitbread) considered as unfair and inadmissible by the public.

Mr. *Dundas* said, the honorable gentleman (Mr. Whitbread) was right; he (Mr. Dundas) did at that time state that the account was closed, and the reason was, that the report of the committee of 1805 was proceeded on by that of 1808, and the East India company denied the justice of the conclusions of that committee, and complained of their injustice in refusing to admit their claim. They, therefore, now came to the house for relief, and that was the basis of their present petition. Claims were some time since made by a person of the post-office, who complained of the injustice done to him twenty years ago, and no objection was made by the house to entertain and investigate that claim; therefore he could see no reason why this petition should not be received and attended to.

The petition was then ordered to be referred to the committee on India affairs.

Tuesday, May 15th.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

Mr. *Creevey*, after briefly commenting on the propriety of the East India company submitting to the public a statement of their affairs, when they were in the habit of coming down every year to that house to borrow money, moved that there be laid before the house a copy of the exposition of the affairs of the East India company, submitted to the committee of 1808, appointed to consider the affairs of India,

Mr. *Dundas* said he should not oppose the motion, which, after a few

words from Lord Folkestone, was agreed to.

Mr. *Astell* moved for the production of papers respecting the directors in 1797.—Ordered.

Tuesday, May 27th.

EAST INDIA EXPORT TRADE.

Mr. *Prendergast*, after a few prefatory observations, inculcating the necessity of promoting the export trade of the East Indies by some prompt and efficient measures, moved, pursuant to his notice. "That there be laid before the house the copy of a letter from the governor-general in council to the court of directors, dated 23d of August, 1809."

On the question being put,

Mr. *R. S. Dundas* opposed the production of the paper, on the ground that it was already, with various other documents, before the committee on the state of the East India company's affairs, and also because it would be a useless waste of the time of the house to occupy its attention with any part of the question, until that committee shall have made its report.

Mr. *Grant* said, that the sales in Leadenhall-street were much quickened by the Americans retiring from the trade, and withdrawing their competition. The honorable gentleman was totally mistaken if he supposed that the company wished to favour the American trade in preference to the native trade.

Sir *T. Turton* complained of the darkness in which the company chose to keep this country with respect to every thing that takes place in India. Two sessions had elapsed, and the third was on the point of expiring, without any report being presented to the house on that subject.

Sir *J. Anstruther* hoped that it would not be considered that the inquiry respecting the private trade was now terminated. Although it was sometimes alleged that the company managed their trade so well and so cheap that no private traders could come into competition, he believed that it would be found upon enquiry that the company lost considerable by those restrictions and fetters they imposed on private traders.

Mr. *P. Moore* hoped that a full and fair report respecting India might be before the country, prior to the time that any steps should be taken for a renewal of their charter. That great and rich country had been so badly managed by the company, as to be of hardly any service to the mother country, whereas it ought to furnish considerable aid.

Mr. *Wallace* said, that some reports respecting India were in a state of preparation and forwardness.

After a few observations from other gentlemen, and a short reply from Mr. Prendergast, the motion was put and negatived by a majority of 64 to 24.

Thursday, May 31st.

INDIA LOAN.

Mr. *Dundas* stated the causes of the difficulties in which the company found itself, the chief of which was, the number of bills presented in this country for payment upon their India debt. It had been the object of the company, however, to confine their loans in India to their surplus revenue there, and they had succeeded to a considerable extent in Madras and Bombay; but there were no accounts from Bengal to shew how the plan answered there. But a complete account of all their debts would be laid before the house next session. It had never been expected that these debts could be discharged out of their commercial profits here. The India debt contracted in the acquisition of territory ought to be charged on the territorial revenue. The house had been in the habit of extending relief to merchants, but the company would have been able to meet all their late immense losses in trade, had it not been for these India bills. He proposed to move an issue of one and a half million in exchequer bills for the relief of the company, which would be made payable in time, to bring the company's affairs under discussion some time next session.—There existed sufficient security for this in their stock in

trade, and the debt would be liquidated by the company defraying certain naval expences in the East Indies, hitherto defrayed by the crown. Mr. D. then adverted to the wars in which the company had been engaged, which had occasioned the deficit in their revenue compared with their expenditure. But there was now a prospect of their being able considerably to reduce their military establishment. He further stated, that the government had called upon the company to give licences for individual trade to Africa, the Red Sea, and Southern Continent of America. The house, however, would have a future opportunity of regulating the India trade in whatever manner should appear most proper. He concluded by moving, as above, that one million and a half of exchequer bills, &c.

Mr. *Creevey* stated, that he had little confidence in the security proffered for this sum. It was remarkable that, as to India, the honorable gentleman had only been able to shew a decrease of deficit—he had said nothing of surplus. He contended, in opposition to the last speaker, that increase of investment was not necessarily a source of profit. Where the trade was a losing one, it was a means of loss; and he referred to lord Minto's letter to shew how the matter stood in the present instance. The company had completely failed in their engagements to the public; and instead of nine millions, which they ought to have paid by this time, they had only paid 500,000l.

Mr. *Dundas* observed, that the affairs of the company could not be considered as a mere mercantile concern. They were not to be considered as bankrupt, because their commercial profits here could not answer the India bills. It might as well be said that this country was bankrupt, because it could not at once discharge a debt of 600,000,000l.

A member, whose name we could not learn, stated, that he had a letter from India, stating an instance of bad faith in the company, in regard to a loan contracted there. It was of the last importance to preserve the confidence of the natives; and he confessed that the letter in question had almost destroyed the remains of confidence which he had had in the stability of the company.

Mr. *Dundas* stated, that the transaction in question was now under investigation.

Mr. *G. Johnstone* supported the motion, although he considered it perfectly delusive to argue that the affairs of the East India company were in a flourishing state. With respect to the alleged reduction of the military force in India, it was impossible, inasmuch as it was now scarcely sufficient for the protection of the territories subject to the company.

Mr. *Grant* denied that the allegations relative to the insolvency of the company were in any degree borne out by the facts, although it was manifest that the general circulation of such rumours, both within and without those walls, was, above all other circumstances, calculated to produce much of the evil which it was only affected to predict. It was no proof that because the coffers of the company at home, in consequence of their commercial and political exertions in India, were not full, that therefore the application to the country for an advance of a certain sum was insolvency. Had not at various times great chartered bodies made such applications to the House of Commons? Did not the Bank of England do so, and would it be contended that such an act fully illustrated the insolvency of that corporation?

After some further observations from lord Morpeth and Mr. Prendergast, the committee divided, when the numbers were—

For the motion 75—against it 10—majority 65.

EAST INDIA COMPANY'S SERVICE.

On the motion of Mr. *Dundas*, the house went into a committee on the East India recruiting bill.

Sir *Henry Montgomery* rose, in pursuance of the notice he gave on the second reading of this bill, to

propose a clause to regulate the rank of the officers in the company's army with those of his majesty, which would at once put an end to the discontents and heart-burnings that had so long agitated the army in India, and would, if not fixed on fair military principles, one day or other occasion the loss of that most valuable part of the British empire. By a clause in the mutiny act, for the government of the army of the East India company, passed in the year 1753, and continued by the articles of war published annually by the king, it is directed (said Sir H.), that officers of the king's army, when on duty with those of the company, shall take rank and precedence without reference to the date of commission; or, in other words, that the oldest general, colonel, major, or captain, in the company's army, although of ten years in that rank, is to be commanded by an officer of equal rank in his majesty's army promoted yesterday. It must be recollected, that although such a distinction might have been very proper fifty-seven years ago, when this act passed—when the officers in the company's army were few, and still fewer of them regularly bred to the military life; yet of late years, it has become a regularly organized army of nearly as great a magnitude as his majesty's army annually voted by the house; and that it has produced, and does at this moment consist of, as many distinguished and valuable officers as any in the world. I think it is not an unreasonable thing which I ask, that, as subjects and servants of the same state, they should be put on an equality of rank when on duty together. The right honourable gentleman at the head of the board of controul will, I know, tell me, as he did the other night, there is no sort of occasion to repeal this clause, for the king was graciously pleased, in the year 1787, to promise that brevet commissions in his army should be granted to the officers in the company's service, which had put them on an equal footing in respect to rank; but surely the right honourable gentleman must know that his majesty's most gracious intention in this respect has not been complied with for the last ten years; and that there is not an officer in the company's army, save those who have been promoted in the general brevet at home, that have ever received a commission. If the right honourable gentleman does not know, I can tell him and the house, that very many unpleasant discussions have taken place on this point between the king's and company's officers of late, and it is my firm belief, that nothing less than what I now propose will put a stop to them in future, or secure that harmony which I think ought to prevail between soldiers and fellow subjects serving their sovereign and country. Can the right honourable gentleman and the house believe, that even had his majesty's most gracious intention been carried into effect, the article to which I object would not still be considered as degrading to the feelings of the officers in the company's army? But, Sir, what would be their feelings in case it should be found necessary to employ in India any of the many foreign corps now in the service? The officers of these corps are entitled, as the act now stands, to claim the same superiority of rank over the company's army, and I would ask the house if this is to be endured? I have also to call the attention of the right honourable gentleman to another subject, which I mentioned the other night, that is the restriction of rank of the company's army to major-general. I wish always to speak of his majesty's army and the foreign troops in his service, as I feel, with perfect respect. But when I see on the list of the army two lieutenant-generals, Count de Meuron and Baron Hompesch, I cannot see any sufficient reason why major-generals in the company's army, with brevets from the king's, should not be promoted to a higher rank. No man thinks more highly of Sir Samuel Achmuty than I do; nor, as I said before, do I think there was so proper a person to be found for the very important station to which he has been sent;

but I still assert that he has had local rank given him contrary to the stipulations made with the company's army in 1796: that although local rank was to be given to the commanders-in-chief, at the different presidencies, it was only intended to entitle them to a larger staff, and to the consequent aggrandizement of the station, and not to the depression or supercession of any senior officer. Does the local rank given to Sir Brent Spencer, Sir Stapleton Cotton, &c. supercede any of their seniors in the army of Portugal? And when major-general Abercrombie was sent to Bombay with the local rank of lieutenant-general, was there not very good care taken to prevent it affecting one of his majesty's major-generals then doing duty there, by his removal to the staff of another presidency? But no such allowance was made for the feelings of the company's officer. He must either suffer supercession, or cease to serve his country. This subject will, I trust, be taken into most serious consideration by the right honourable gentleman; but if he wishes to withhold it to be offered as a boon to the officers of the company's army, on any arrangement which he may wish to make to induce the army to transfer their services, I would tell him, the company's officers are very well content to remain governed as they are. They have ever found the court of directors a most useful and often a successful barrier between them and encroachments from another quarter, and they have heretofore also found the court of directors ever ready and willing to attend to their just complaints, and, as far as in their power, redress them.—I now move the clause: Be it enacted that after the passing of this act, all officers in the service of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, shall, whenever they are employed on duty or otherwise with the officers of his majesty's army, take rank, precedence, and command, according to the dates of their respective commissions, and to the rules of the army.

Mr. *Dundas* objected to this, as inefficient, and contrary to the agreement entered into on the subject in 1796. It was also a novel legislation on the army, which ought to be left to the king.

The motion was negatived, and the report on the bill, as originally framed, ordered to be received to-morrow.

Thursday, June 14th.

EAST INDIA LOAN.

Mr. *Dundas* moved the third reading of the East India Loan bill.

Sir *T. Turton* stated, that he had been so disgusted with the mode in which India subjects had been treated, that if this had concerned India alone he would expect no attention. But it concerned this country, as he saw no reasonable hope that this sum would ever be repaid. The territories, it had been said, would enable them to pay the debt. Considering the debt upon that territory, and the spirit of extension and conquest in India, it was impossible to look with confidence to that resource. The financial embarrassments had increased with the conquests, and though he saw a gentleman smile, he could point out how Indian princes and their ministers had been hung up at their own doors, and their heads fixed upon the walls of their own palaces. But these tidings, as they only concerned India, excited no interest. We had nothing to expect from India, except an additional load of debt.—The honourable baronet then examined the state of the East India company's property, and contended that they had no reasonable security to offer for the repayment of this sum. There was great reason to dread a Mahratta war, and yet there appeared but little disposition to conciliate our own army. He blamed the severity of the conduct of the governor of Madras; that conduct might, perhaps, be justified by necessity; but that was not the general opinion among those most connected with India.

Mr. *Wallace* maintained, that sound policy required that the East India company should be relieved. They had lately sustained great losses, and were but just recovering from the expences consequent upon the just and

necessary wars in which they had been engaged; and even if they had been a private commercial company, they would have some claim to assistance. Their present necessity was manifest, but he contended that the statement in the report proved the security to be sufficient. A part of the India debt was of a political character, and in relieving the company from the pressure of that debt the country was serving itself. On the whole, the country could not with propriety refuse the present application.

Mr. *Creevey* opposed the bill, on the ground that there was no hopes that the money should ever be repaid; and, notwithstanding what had been said by the honourable gentleman who spoke last, he thought that none of themselves would have the hardihood to say that there was a reasonable prospect of repayment. He objected to it besides, on account of the time at which it had been brought forward, when it was impossible to discuss the subject fully. He objected also because the company might go to market to increase their capital, and try their credit with the public, and lastly, he objected, because a full account of the East India company's affairs had not been laid before the house.

Mr. *S. Dundas* denied that the company's territories were such scenes of rapine as the honourable gentleman had represented. They were governed in a manner the most advantageous for the people. This he could take upon him to assert, from better sources of information than the honourable baronet possessed. The honourable baronet's animadversion on the conduct of the Madras government was irrelevant. No information on the subject had as yet been laid before the House; the censure, therefore, was as premature as he believed it to be undeserved. As to no Indian budget having been brought forward, he had only to answer that this was impossible.

Lord *A. Hamilton* expressed his dissent to the motion.

After a few observations from Mr. *R. Thornton* in favour of the bill, the House divided, when the numbers were, for the third reading,

Ayes - - - - -	52
Noes - - - - -	10
Majority - -	—42

HOUSE OF LORDS.

Saturday, June 16.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

The order of the day on the East India company's loan bill being read,

The earl of *Lauderdale* objected to the bill on the ground that the company had, for the last seven years, been paying dividends of $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on their stock to their proprietors, while, at the same time, year after year, they were borrowing from the public, thereby making the whole sum, above the legal interest, amounting to about 800,000l. a year, now paid by them to their proprietors, and which, there being reason to fear that their profits were actually nothing, must ultimately be payable to their creditors as a burthen on the public.

The earl of *Liverpool* supported the bill.

Lord *Holland* opposed it, on grounds similar to those urged by the earl of Lauderdale.

The bill was then forwarded in its stage.

The earl of *Lauderdale* proposed, that it be referred to the judges to give their opinion on the legality of the right assumed by the East India company, or their directors, to declare a dividend of $10\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. where, in fact, their profits did not amount to one farthing; and concluded by moving, that the judges do attend in the House, for this purpose, on Monday.

On this question a division took place, when the motion was negatived.

The earl of *Lauderdale* afterwards entered the following Protest:

Dissentient—Because, To us it appears that before passing this bill into a law, the opinion of the judges on the legality of the East India company's declaring a dividend in the present state of their affairs is highly desirable. For whilst we know from the accounts on the table of the House,

that they have continued to divide annually ten and a half per cent. on their capital stock, we are convinced that the House of Commons would not have abandoned the wise and prudent system they had formerly pursued, when in chapter 64, of the 13th of George the Third, they limited the dividend on the company's stock to six per cent. till the sum of fourteen hundred thousand pounds, advanced to relieve them from difficulties similar to those they now experienced, was repaid, had they not thought it unnecessary, seeing that in their opinion the East India company are, in the present situation of their affairs, by law precluded from assigning to the proprietors any dividend on their capital stock.

Secondly, Because the doubts that must naturally arise on the right of the company to declare a dividend, from the difference of opinion thus disclosed to us by the conduct of the East India company, and by the provisions of the bill sent up by the Commons, are greatly increased by the following considerations:—

First, The accounts of stock per computation on the table of this house —1st of March, 1806; 1st of March, 1807; 1st of March, 1808; and 1st of March, 1809—far from shewing any profit, after the payment of bills of exchange accepted, and of debts, interest, and other out-goings, exhibit, in that short space of time, a loss to the enormous amount of twelve millions five hundred and seventy-one thousand twenty-two pounds; whilst by the 111th clause of the 33d George III. chapter 52, the company have only a right to declare a dividend, "out of their profits in Great Britain, after providing for payment of bills of exchange already accepted by the company, as the same shall become due, and for the current payment of other debts, interest, and other out-goings, charges, and expences."

Secondly, Both the East India company and the legislature seem to have formerly given a most decided opinion on this subject; for when, by the 65th chapter of the 21st of George III. the company were, as at present, precluded from dividing the sum, then permitted by law, of eight per cent. on their capital stock, till they had provided for the current payment of interest, out-goings, and other expences; they, in the year after the passing of that act, petitioned to be empowered by law to divide the said sum of eight per cent. per annum, notwithstanding that their net profits fell short of what was necessary to discharge such a dividend by twenty-two thousand and twenty-three pounds; and Parliament actually gave such powers in chapter 51 of the 22d of George III.

Thirdly, Because under these circumstances, whatever may be the opinion of the judges concerning the right of the company to declare a dividend, it seems to us imperiously necessary for the public interest, that the House should be in possession of it. For if the judges should pronounce it to be illegal for the company to declare any dividend in the present situation of their affairs, the authority of such an opinion would prevent a large portion of the sum about to be lent, from being illegally transferred into the pockets of the proprietors of India stock; and if, on the contrary, the judges should declare, that such a dividend was legal, it would certainly suggest to the House the propriety of following the wise example the legislature has heretofore given, by introducing a clause into the bill now before them, for diminishing the dividend to be made to the proprietors, till such time as the money advanced should be repaid to the public.

LAUDERDALE.

Tuesday, June 19th.

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

The Earl of *Liverpool* moved the third reading of the East India company's loan bill, observing, that the special grounds on which this application was now made to parliament, were, that a considerable debt had been incurred in consequence of the wars in India, in which this country was materially interested, and in consequence of

the creditors having an option of drawing bills on the company in England. Bills had been drawn to the amount of upwards of 4,000,000l. and in addition to this, the loss sustained by the company, from the late calamities which had happened to their shipping, amounted to nearly a million.

The Earl of *Lauderdale* entered into a detailed statement, for the purpose of shewing the unprosperous state of the company, and the little prospect there was of this money being repaid. The act of 1793 required, that the debt of the company in India should be reduced to 2,000,000l.; the bond debt in England to 500,000l.; that 500,000l. per annum should be paid to the public; and that a sum should accumulate to make up the amount of 12,000,000l. as a security for the holders of the capital stock. Instead of this, the debt in India had accumulated to 32,000,000l. the bond debt in England to 4,000,000l. the 500,000l. unpaid to the public, now amounted to 7,000,000l. and these sums, added to the 12,000,000l. made a difference of 52,000,000l. His lordship also contended, that it appeared, from the balance paper of stock, per computation laid before parliament, that the company was now 16,000,000l. worse than nothing. The noble lord adverted to the late transactions in Madras, observing, that no government ever deserved more reprobation than the Madras government, for its conduct in those transactions; a conduct which, in one instance, was wholly unaccountable, it having suspended and sent home colonel Boles, for signing military orders by order of his superior officer, and appointed to the same situation colonel Sutherland Macdowall, who had signed one half of the very same orders. With respect to the forged bonds of the nabob of Arcot, the conduct of the officers of government was also highly reprehensible.

The Earl of *Harrowby* declined entering into any detailed state of the affairs of the East India company, there not being sufficient materials before the house for that purpose. He admitted, that there had been disappointment, but no blame was imputable to any one. The present sum was asked in order to give time to the company to bring about their affairs. The conduct of the Madras government in the late transactions, was, he contended, deserving of the highest praise. The circumstance respecting colonel Sutherland Macdowall, he had now heard for the first time. With respect to the forged bonds, his lordship observed, that the conduct of the officers of government was wholly undeserving of blame.

The Earl of *Clancarty* entered into some details for the purpose of disproving the statements of the Earl of Lauderdale, and observed, that the balance sheet of stock per computation, was varying every day, and did not shew the profits of the company, which, he contended, was proved by other documents to have arisen, in succeeding years, up to last year, to a considerable amount. Government had, he observed, in the money due to the company, security for a considerable part of the sum now proposed to be advanced.

The Earl of *Lauderdale* replied; and in allusion to the appointment of colonel Sutherland Macdowall, observed, that he knew the fact of that officer's having signed those very orders, for signing which colonel Boles was suspended. With respect to the bonds, he stated, that it appeared upon one of the trials at Madras, that the advocate-general was in possession of one of them.

The bill was read a third time, and passed.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

Wednesday, Feb. 13, 1811.

Mr. *Creevey* gave notice, that on Monday, the 4th of March, he should submit a motion to the house, the object of which would be to induce it to take some measures to restrain the court of directors of the East India company, in consequence of their having declared a dividend of 10½ per cent. under all the circumstances of the present situation of the affairs of the company. He also gave notice, that to-morrow week he should move, as he

had done last session, for all the documents relative to the late transactions in the army at Madras; also respecting the trials which had taken place in the civil courts at Madras, together with copies of all correspondence between the court of directors, the board of controul, and the governments in India upon that subject.

Thursday, Feb. 21.

Mr. *Creevey* rose to make the motion of which he had formerly given notice. He said he had, in the course of last session, brought forward some motions relative to the conduct of Sir George Barlow, in the affair of the disturbances of the Madras army; and from circumstances which had since transpired, and the subsequent proceedings of the East India company, in restoring colonel Boles to the situation from which he had been dismissed by Sir George Barlow, some further documents would be necessary; and besides those he should move for to-night, he should reserve to himself a right, at some future time, to call for such papers as may be necessary to elucidate the cases of colonel John Bell, major Storey, and colonel Doveton, all officers in the Madras army. Besides the papers relative to this important transaction, he felt it his duty to move for other papers relative to an extraordinary trial, which had taken place there, the particulars of which he would shortly state.—There had, some years ago, been established at Madras, a fund for discharging the claims made on the nabobs of Arcot, which fund was to consist of five millions. No sooner was it set on foot, than claims were very soon put in to the amount of thirty millions, many of which were downright forgeries. Among these, a person of the name of Reddy Row, was convicted of the forgery of a bond to a very large amount, and also of a cheat and conspiracy as to another bond; that, in the course of investigating this business, Sir George Barlow actually identified himself with Reddy Row; and to screen him from the prosecution, wrote a letter to three gentlemen, high in the council, saying that if they took any part against Reddy Row, they would incur the severest censure of the governor. He ordered also, that the expences of the trials against Reddy Row, should be defrayed out of the fund of five millions set apart expressly to discharge the just claims of the nabob's *bonâ fide* creditors. And notwithstanding the verdicts of two juries, composed of Englishmen of character and respectability, acting on oath, who found Reddy Row guilty of the crimes imputed to him, he evinced what was the severest censure of the governor on those who did their duty, by removing Mr. Roebuck, an old and infirm man, from the situation he held at Madras, five hundred miles from thence to a most unwholsome place, and where he died in consequence, and where his emoluments were not half what he enjoyed at Madras. He next removed Mr. Metcalfe, (or Maitland,) the magistrate who committed Reddy Row; and a third he sent to England without any notice. Sir George Barlow had also insisted, that, notwithstanding the bond had been declared, by a respectable jury, to be a forgery, the commissioners had nevertheless a right to pay the money out of the fund. That through the representations of Sir Thomas Strange, the chief justice of Madras, Reddy Row had obtained a pardon in England; but before it arrived in India, he had saved his friends all further occasion to trouble themselves on his behalf, by administering to himself a dose of poison. If by the papers moved for, he was borne out to any thing like the extent stated, he should, in the course of the session, move for the recall of Sir George Barlow. He concluded by moving for copies of the correspondence between Sir George Barlow, and the council, relative to Reddy Row.

Mr. *C. Grant* said, he did not rise to oppose the motion, but only to observe that he had never heard a more aggravated or exaggerated statement, than that just made by the honourable gentleman. The public had long known that the debts of the nabobs of Arcot, had been a source of corrup-

tion for upwards of thirty years. Mr. Maitland, the justice of peace, did not do his duty as a magistrate, and therefore ought to be removed; and he believed in the course of the whole transaction, the government of Madras had no other object but to promote public justice. The history of Reddy Row was this:—Among many of the claims brought against the fund, was one for a considerable sum, by a man of some consequence in his own country, and of great intrigue and knavery, called Paupiah Braminy, who was prosecuted for forging the bond on which he founded his claim; this man, by means of his agents and creatures, contrived to set up a counter-prosecution against Reddy Row, who had long been a faithful servant of government; and it was to protect him against this prosecution, that Sir G. Barlow had ordered those measures to be pursued which had taken place. With respect to the removal of Mr. Roebuck, there were reasons for it, which Sir George Barlow conceived sufficient; but so far from his being sent to an unwholesome place, it was acknowledged to be one of the most salubrious climates in that part of our settlements. The bond for which Reddy Row was prosecuted, had received no elucidation in the course of the trial; whether he fell by his own hands or by the course of nature, he could not tell; but Paupiah Braminy had also made a sudden exit, and it might be, that poison was as fairly to be attributed to him as to the other. If the last session had continued a little longer, all the papers would have been before the house. He hoped they would speedily be so, and very soon after investigated; and though, doubtless, many private interests, passions, and prejudices would therein be displayed, yet he was convinced, the more they were investigated, the more clearly the public would see that the government of Madras had acted for the furtherance of public justice alone. With regard to Sir George Barlow, whose recall the honourable gentleman had intimated he should hereafter move for, he could say, that he had long been an attentive observer of his conduct; from the whole of which, during many years arduous service, he was convinced that Sir George Barlow had most eminently discharged the important duties reposed in him, and was entitled to the high approbation of his country. All he now wished, was a suspension of opinion till the papers were before the House.

Lord *Folkestone* would have been perfectly satisfied with the honourable member's (Mr. Grant) statement, but for some little inaccuracies. It had been said, that Mr. Roebuck, from his time of life, and the peculiar nature of services, which had lasted so many years, might have died, without leaving any other cause to be looked for, than his age and services. But this argument cut both ways: and it was rather a singular vindication; that an old and infirm man—a man, too, whose infirmities arose from his services to the company, should have been sent to an unwholesome spot, and left to take his chance of living or dying there; and that after having made every submission that could have been required, and written a supplicatory letter. As to Mr. Maitland, who was removed from his situation as a justice of the peace, for receiving the evidence of one man, and refusing that of another, he ought to have been praised for his sagacity; for it turned out in the event, that Reddy Row was given up by the government, and Paupiah Braminy, though his trial had been put off for three sessions, for the collection of full evidence against him, was finally let off without their urging the trial to conviction. Thus, according to Mr. Maitland's judgment, the event actually exhibited itself. For Paupiah was not prosecuted, and Reddy Row was found guilty. That personage died by his own hands, after being found guilty by three successive juries, of perjury, forgery, and conspiracy, to cheat and defraud. Full as this was, for his disgrace, Reddy Row contrived still to find protectors in the chief justice,

(Sir Thomas Strange,) and the government; until a witness came forward, who saw him in the very act of forgery, and it was only then that he was given up. As to the military matters, it would not be proper to enter upon them, until further information was obtained. But if it were to be said that Sir George Barlow put down the rebellion by his intrepidity and good conduct, let it be remembered, that to all appearance, it was a rebellion of his own raising. The army appeared to have been driven to extremities by the harshness of Sir George Barlow. It was to be hoped, that the entire business might meet the most accurate discussion; and that gentlemen would come down to the House, not prepared, as they sometimes were on India matters, by canvassings and solicitations, but after the best examination which they could give to the evidence and the best judgment which they could bring to matters of such high importance to the British character.

Mr. *Wallace* approved of the entire of Sir George Barlow's conduct, in the difficult situation in which he was placed. He must, however, except from his approval certain particular parts. He must except colonel Capper's dismissal, and some other things. But the army were inflamed by the conduct of general Macdowal, and it was to that inflammation that so much of the evil was to be traced. The prosecution against Paupiah Braminy, was stopped by his death, and the other ones were stopped by the threatened disturbances of the times.

Sir *T. Turton* said, that India, which seemed to some persons a jewel of the crown, seemed to him a dead weight. India had been gained by our crimes, held by our injustice, and would be lost by our folly. He had studied India affairs, though whenever he addressed the House upon the subject he had the misfortune to do it in a thin House.

Mr. *R. Dundas* regretted that the honourable mover (Mr. Creevey) should have gone into a detail of matters which were not fairly before the House. He might know that no opposition was intended to his motion. Nothing ought to have been stated at a time when the House had not materials for forming a judgment, and apportioning the guilt or innocence of the respective parties. He (Mr. Dundas) must, in the present state of the business, decline going into particulars, farther than to mention one or two points which had been passed over. It had been said, that general Macdowal's memory ought to have been spared. There could be no intention to press upon the memory of a man not able now to defend his character; but it was quite impossible to touch upon the late circumstances without attributing much to the conduct of general Macdowal. It had been said, that the late dispatch of the directors had praised Sir G. Barlow's conduct in all parts. This was not true. For they were then, and are still exercising their judgment upon his administration. They had since restored major Boles. The commissioners were now employed in looking over the whole mass of papers relative to the army affairs, and it could not therefore be said, that any dispatch of theirs had yet pronounced their final judgment on those subjects. The contemptuous language which was applied to the chief justice was perfectly misplaced. Those who best knew sir Thomas Strange, would best know how much superior he was to such insinuations. That magistrate was objected to for recommending Reddy Row for pardon; but he sent home the report of the trial, with his own charge to the jury, directing them to acquit the prisoner, which they did not do. The report was open for examination, and Sir Thomas Strange declared, that in demanding the pardon of the convicted person, he made no demand on the mercy, but every demand on the justice of those, to whom that report was to be referred in England. The law was rightly applied by the chief justice, and if the culprit had been put to death, notwithstanding, a fruitful theme of eloquence would have been open to the honour-

able mover. It should be known, that the trial lasted seventeen days, and that on some of those days the proceedings were ordered to be stopped, from the intoxication of the jury. One word more, as to a personal charge brought forward by an honourable member, and even supported by a noble lord (A. Hamilton) on the opposite side of the house. The charge had not been brought forward at the alleged time of the act, but in eight months afterwards; at a time when its nature had gone out of his (Mr. Dundas's) head, and equally out of those of the honourable members on the opposite side. It was the charge of his having hurried an East India bill through the House, at such a period of the Session, and even of the night which it was brought up, as to prevent the full discusison which such a measure deserved. But it ought to be remembered, that on the night of its being passed, the chancellor of the exchequer had made a motion relative to the assessed taxes, on which an honourable baronet (Sir T. Turton,) spoke. It was known pretty well to the House, that that honourable Baronet entered into such subjects with tolerable minuteness; and after so much of their time being so occupied, it could scarcely be said, that the India bill was brought forward too early for a debate. But those were merely minor topics, and he would not now enter farther into the discussion.

Lord *A. Hamilton* expressed his astonishment at finding that the court of directors approved of almost the whole of the conduct of Sir George Barlow. If ever there was any thing which required serious investigation before coming to a decision, Sir George Barlow ought seriously to have the charges against the different officers investigated before he dismissed them. The right hon. gentleman, (Mr. Dundas) had censured his honourable friend, (Mr. Creevey) for prejudging the case of Sir George Barlow, and anticipating guilt; but it appeared from the papers before the House, that there were, at least, from twenty to thirty officers, civil and military, whom Sir George had prejudged to be guilty; and had punished, dismissed, and banished them, as if their guilt had been fully proved: and, notwithstanding that such had confessedly been the conduct of Sir George, yet he was the man that it was stated to be very unfair to prejudge. Another right hon. gentleman, (Mr. Wallace) who thought it so unfair to prejudge the case of Sir G. Barlow, had not hesitated to prejudge general Macdowal, and to charge him with practising arts to deceive the army. This was a charge which he believed was never before brought against that officer; and it was his firm persuasion, that it was from the intemperance of Sir George Barlow himself, that the mutiny took its rise. When he arrived in India, he found an obedient and well-disciplined army; but soon after, it was in a state of general mutiny. He would wish to ask the directors one question. He had heard that many had been dismissed without any reason being assigned, or without their having an opportunity of being heard in their defence. This was, he believed, quite contrary to the practice of the company, and to the rights of their servants, whether civil or military; he had heard, that the only reason assigned in such cases, was, that it was "not expedient," and that every thing which in the least opposed the will of Sir George Barlow, was called an obstruction to the government.

Sir *John Anstruther* observed, that irregular discussions on India subjects might be productive of great mischief, as the speeches which were published, circulated in India often for months before the account of the regular discussion on full information; and by this means great mischief was produced. He could not plead total ignorance on this subject; and he would take upon himself to assert, that when the papers should be before the House, he would make it appear that the greatest praise was due to Sir G. Barlow for the talents, courage, and zeal which he shewed in the suppression of the

mutiny; and that no part of his conduct, from the beginning to the end, contributed at all to cause the mutiny. One gentleman had stated pretty broadly, that Sir George Barlow had punished men for their conduct on juries in the state prosecutions. If those men committed any thing improper afterwards, it was not to be supposed that their having been on a jury was to be a full indemnity. Some were promoted, and he believed the very secretary of his government had been one of those jurors. As to some officers having been dismissed without any particular cause assigned, that was a power without which no military government could exist, and he believed that in every country the supreme head of the government had a power of dismissing any particular officer, without assigning a specific reason.

Sir *H. Montgomery* could not help observing, that the reflections cast by a right hon. gentleman (Mr. Wallace) on the character of a most respectable friend of his, now no more, was both unhandsome and unjust. He (Sir Henry) had the happiness to know Mr. Roebuck intimately well for many years; and he could assure the House, that in the circle in which he moved, there was not to be found a man more esteemed; and, he believed, there is not a better or a more honourable man existing in this or any country in the world; and in opposition to the statement of the hon. director, Mr. Grant, as to the healthfulness of the place to which Mr. Roebuck was banished by Sir George Barlow, the returns of the troops stationed in that district for several years past, will shew what a grave it has been to our brave army, as well as to Mr. Roebuck. As to the assertion made by the same right hon. gentleman, and repeated with so much force by an honourable director of the East India company, (Mr. Grant) that Sir George Barlow, by his courage and firmness, had put down the rebellion; he (Sir Henry) thought directly the reverse; for the very measures which these hon. gentlemen assert to be the means adopted with so much success, in putting down the revolt, he (Sir Henry) asserted to be the very cause of the officers proceeding to extremities; for, he would ask, did it appear that a single sword was drawn, or any resistance made, till after the seizure, in the most outrageous and disgraceful manner, of the officers of the corps at the Mount, and Trichinopoly? The torch which by this proceeding was lighted by Sir George Barlow, would never have been extinguished, had it not been for the conciliatory proclamation of lord Minto, and the announcing of his intention of coming to Madras; the happy and timely receipt of which, and the great influence which two distinguished officers then employed in high diplomatic situations, colonel Close, and captain Sydenham, so fortunately possessed over the officers, procured the submission of the force stationed at Hydrabad, and its example was immediately followed by the whole army. Is not this acknowledged by Lord Minto? and does he not in consequence pardon the whole of that body? although they had proceeded greater lengths in insubordination than at any other station in the army. As to taking the power of suspension from the governments of India, sir Henry desired no such thing, but he wished to preserve to men, separated fifteen thousand miles from their country, family, and friends, the right of complaining; and that at least some sort of a hearing should be given them before they were dismissed, and lasting disgrace heaped upon them.

Mr. *Greenfell* made some observations in a low tone of voice, the purport of which we could not collect.

Mr. *Parry* (the chairman of the court of directors) said, that it was not that court which shewed unwillingness to take into consideration the complaints or representations of their officers. In the case of general Macdowall, it was that officer who had thought it beneath him to apply to the court of directors. He believed that no blame would be found to attach to Sir George. The hon. baronet (Sir H. Montgomery) who had spoken last, seemed to consider that the suppres-

sion of the mutiny was entirely owing to the expectation of lord Minto's arrival at Madras. Now he would take upon him to say, that from the distance of lord Minto from the station, that cause could not have any influence. The real causes of the suppression of the mutiny were, that the officers of the Madras army found their principal stay and reliance, which was upon the native officers and men, fail them. When they discovered that the native troops would not stick to them, and that sir George Barlow was a man of much more vigour and resolution than they had expected to find him, they became weary of the mutiny.

Mr. *Creevey*, in reply, said, that he had been charged with having acted unfairly in making those statements, when it was understood that his motion was not to be opposed. It would appear to him much more unfair, if he had moved for papers without describing them to the House. A right hon. gentleman (Mr. Dundas) had accused him of bringing a charge upon his administration in his absence. What he had stated was, that money bills were often passed in such a manner, that members had not fair notice of them; that in this manner a bill for granting a million and a half to the East India company, had been carried through the two first stages long after midnight, and that the third reading took place on another day before the usual hour of bringing forward public business, when the House was thin, and the attendance principally of members connected with India. From these circumstances he was then convinced, and still firmly believed, that the House had been taken by surprise, and the audience assembled by invitation.

Mr. *Howorth* considered, that the chairman of the company had libelled the brave army of India, an army consisting of 80,000 men, who had covered with their glory the whole Indian Peninsula.

After some further conversation, the papers originally moved for, with some additional ones, were granted.

STATE PAPERS

For 1810.

PAPERS RELATING TO EAST INDIA AFFAIRS.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 7th February, 1810,

The Chairman gave notice, that on this day se'nnight he should submit to the court a proposition relating to the appointment of a commander-in-chief of the army at Madras.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 14th February, 1810,

The Chairman, pursuant to the notice given by him in court on the 7th instant, moving the court,

It was,

Resolved by the ballot, unanimously, that major-general sir Samuel Auchmuty be appointed commander-in-chief of the company's forces on the Fort St. George establishment.

It was then, on another motion,

Resolved by the ballot, that major-general sir S. Auchmuty be appointed second in council at Fort St. George.

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, the 3d April, 1810,

A letter from the right honourable Robert Dundas, dated the 2d instant, calling the court's attention to the necessity of deciding, without further delay, as to which of the members of the Madras council is to retire in consequence of the appointment of sir Samuel Auchmuty, transmitting copies of two minutes, which Mr. Dundas states sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie have respectively recorded, on each other's conduct, and offering his observations on the subject generally, being read;

Ordered, that it lie for consideration till Friday next.

At a Court of Directors, held on Friday, the 6th of April, 1810,

The court, pursuant to order of the 3d instant, proceeding to take into consideration a letter from the right honourable Robert Dundas, dated the second instant, and which was read in court on the 3d; the following particulars were read; viz.

Sir George Barlow's minute of the 21st August, 1809.

Mr. Petrie's minute of the 8th of September, both of which were transmitted in Mr. Dundas's letter above-mentioned.

Extract of a letter from the governor-general to the secret committee, dated the 12th October, 1809.

A motion was then made,

That a new commission be issued for the government of Fort St. George, and that the following persons be appointed members of the said government, viz.

Sir George Hilaro Barlow, bart. K. B. governor.

Lieut.-general sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and 2d in council.

Thomas Oakes, esqr. 3d.

James Henry Casamaijor, esq. 4th.

It was moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "That," in order to introduce the words, "A new commission of government be issued for the presidency of Madras, and to consist of the following persons:

"Sir George Hilaro Barlow, bart. K. B. governor;

"Sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and 2d in council;

"William Petrie, esq. 3d in council; and on the coming away, death, or resignation, of sir George Barlow, to succeed to the government; and

"Thomas Oakes, esq. 4th in council."

It being then moved, that the debate be adjourned till to-morrow, and the question thereon being put by the ballot,

It passed in the negative.

A motion was then made, that the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question; and the same being put by the ballot,

It passed in the affirmative.

The original question was then put by the ballot, and the votes thereon appearing to be equal, the treasurer was called into court, pursuant to directions in the company's charter, and drew that lot which decided the question in the negative.

The Chairman thereupon gave notice, that he would on Tuesday afternoon next, move again the said question.

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, the 10th of April, 1810,

The Chairman, pursuant to notice given by him on the 6th instant, moving the court,

That a new commission be issued for the government of Fort St. George, and that the following persons be appointed members of the said government, viz.

Sir George Hilaro Barlow, bart. K. B. governor.

Lieutenant-general sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and 2d in council.

Thomas Oakes, esq. 3d.

James Henry Casamaijor, esq. 4th :

It was moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "That," to introduce the words "a new commission of government be issued for the "presidency of Madras, and to consist of the following persons ;

"Sir George Hilaro Barlow, K. B. governor ;

"Sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and 2d in council ;

"William Petrie, esq. 3d in council, and on the coming away, death, or resignation of sir George Barlow, to succeed to the government ; and Thomas Oakes, esq. 4th in council."

It was then moved,

"That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question ;"

And the question thereon being put by the ballot, the same passed in the affirmative.

The main question being then put, it was Resolved by the ballot, that a new commission be issued for the government of Fort St. George, and that the following persons be appointed members of the said government ; viz.

Sir George Hilaro Barlow, bart. K. B. governor ;

Lieut.-general sir Samuel Auchmuty, commander-in-chief, and 2d in council ;

Thomas Oakes, esq. 3d.

James Henry Casamaijor, 4th Ditto.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 25th of April, 1810,

The dissent of sir Francis Baring, bart.
Sir Hugh Inglis, bart.
John Huddleston, esq.
Hon. Wm. F. Elphinstone,
James Pattison, esq. and
John Alexander Bannerman, esq ;—all members of the court ; to the court's resolution of the 10th instant, respecting the appointment of the Madras government, were read.

To the Chairman and Deputy Chairman of the East India Company.

Whitehall, 2d April, 1810.

Gentlemen,—Having frequently had occasion, in different communications with you, to advert to the conduct of the several members of the government of Fort St. George, during the period of those criminal proceedings which, for some time past, have been submitted to the notice of the court of directors, I am desirous of calling your attention to the necessity of deciding, without further delay, as to which of the members of council is to retire, in consequence of the appointment of sir Samuel Auchmuty.

The dispatches which were received lately by the Rattlesnake have put you in possession of all the proceedings of the Madras government on the subject to which I allude ; and they contain also a detail of occurrences subsequently to lord Minto's arrival, and his final decision on the course to be pursued, in regard to the officers who had been principally concerned in the mutinous resistance to the authority of government : but it is to be regretted that you have not received also the consultations and other narratives on the ordinary transactions of the presidency, which are said to have been dispatched by the fleet some time before the sailing of the Rattlesnake.

The conduct of sir George Barlow has received, and I am satisfied has amply merited, the strongest approbation of the court of directors. Mr. Oakes and Mr. Casamaijor, the two junior members of council, have also been noticed by the governor general in terms of great commendation, and they appear to have deserved that testimony of his lordship's favourable opinion ; but it is evident from lord Minto's letter, that Mr. Petrie has not concurred in the general measures which sir George Barlow and his other colleagues thought fit to adopt, in the arduous struggle in which the government was engaged, in support of its legitimate authority. The arrival of the public consultations, with the minutes of council, may be expected to furnish to the court of directors additional evidence of that fact ; and therefore if the case admitted of delay, and the consideration of it could now with propriety or with safety be deferred, I should not have thought it necessary to address you on the present occasion ; but the approaching departure of sir Samuel Auchmuty has precluded me from following that course, and has, in my apprehension, also rendered it impossible for the court to delay any longer a decision on the question to which I have already adverted.

I understand that sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie, from a natural anxiety probably to justify themselves to their private friends in this country, (the public documents for the court having previously been dispatched by the fleet) have forwarded by the Rattlesnake, copies of two minutes, which they had respectively recorded on each other's conduct ; and as copies of those papers, authenticated by the signature of the secretary to the government, have accidently come into my possession, I transmit them herewith, in case the court should not have received them through any other channel.

It is unnecessary for me to advert to several of the topics which are discussed in those minutes, and which may possibly become the subject of future communications from the court to the government of Fort St. George ; but there are two propositions on which I have formed a decided opinion, and which I

am desirous of submitting to your consideration.

1st.—That the continuance any longer of sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie, as members of the same council, cannot be attended with any benefit, and will probably be most injurious to the public interest.

2d.—That the general line of conduct which Mr. Petrie recommended, and wished the government to adopt, during the whole progress of the disturbances, and which, under similar circumstances, would probably be adopted if any accident were to place him at the head of the government (even as temporary president) is wholly incompatible with the maintenance of its authority, and would have a direct tendency to vest in the officers of the company's army such a controuling influence in all the acts of the government, as would not merely be ruinous in point of expence, but would be utterly inconsistent with those principles which the legislature has established for the permanent security of the British power in India.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) R. DUNDAS.

Copy of Sir George Barlow's minute.
Fort St. George, 21st August, 1809.

As the contest between legitimate authority and faction in these territories is now rapidly advancing to the most desirable termination, I consider it to be necessary to record my sentiments on some of the occurrences which have agitated the public mind, since my succession to the government of this presidency. In stating these sentiments, it will be my painful duty to advert particularly to the line of conduct which has been pursued by Mr. Petrie, whose opinions must, from his situation, be received by all as next in importance to my own in their influence on the public welfare.

Among the subjects which have necessarily engaged the public feelings, the investigation of Mr. Sherson's conduct, and that of his servants, in the grain department, holds the first place in order, and, from the proceedings founded on that investigation, is scarcely less distinguished in importance. When I arrived at this presidency I found that circumstances had led to a suspicion of the accounts of that department which had already been submitted to the investigation of a committee nominated by my predecessor Mr. Petrie. The investigation which followed, betrayed the grossest scene of fraud to an immense amount, by means of double accounts, and the conduct of Mr. Sherson, during the enquiry, breaking open the desks of his absconded servants, in endeavouring to obtain the suppression of the suspected accounts, by offering, in the event of his being replaced in the management of the department, to take on himself the responsibility of all the deficiencies, notwithstanding the large quantity of grain which appeared to have been embezzled, and his subsequent attempt to cloak the frauds already detected by a chain of estimates and calculations to which these frauds had been but too plainly adapted, left me no doubt as to my duty in proceeding to punish him as the principal delinquent. The case was of a nature which admitted of its being easily misrepresented; the real merits of it could be known only to a few. The board are well acquainted with the clamour which was industriously and too successfully raised against the government upon every point of the enquiry, and on its final decision regarding it, is well known to the board; and indeed, to every person at the presidency. The clear detection of delinquency on the part of Mr. Sherson, aggravated by peculiar circumstances of violation of confidence, which ought, in well regulated minds, to have raised but one feeling, was drowned in the cry of a numerous and active party against the motives of the first author and promoters of the discovery, while Mr. Sherson was openly and notoriously upheld as the innocent victim of violence, injustice, and tyranny.

Mr. Petrie continued to support Mr. Sherson, in whose favour that clamour had been raised, when suspended by this government, first from all employments, and afterwards from the service, by habitually receiving and countenancing him at his house, as well as by his minutes in council 17th and 23d September, and 29th November, 1808. A principal object of these minutes, as well as Mr. Sherson's voluminous papers, is to shew that the original vouchers and documents of the departments, the examination of which has so completely exposed the frauds committed, and to which Mr. Petrie, while governor, had attached the greatest importance, by appointing a committee of three gentlemen to translate them, were undeserving of credit or attention. I refer to the above minutes of Mr. Petrie, as best shewing whether they are written in the spirit of fair reasoning and cool judgment upon the merits of the case, or whether they are not more calculated to furnish topics of declamation, and to afford encouragement to those who were already loud in the general outcry against the government.

The clamour of party in favour of Mr. Sherson and against the government, received material support from the conduct of Mr. Smith, the civil auditor, in attempting to cloak the peculations of the grain department, by forcing upon the government an audit not justified by any rules or principles of accounting, and by pertinaciously excluding from his notice the clear fact of actual detected fraud: those irregularities were so flagrant, and the disrespect to the government was so little concealed, that the conduct of Mr. Smith could not be attributed to any other cause than the blindness of factious party zeal; it could not have originated in any motives of self interest in Mr. Smith, nor was he suspected of such

motives. The removal of Mr. Smith from the duties of an office which he had perverted, added to the violence of the factious clamours against the government, which the minute of Mr. Petrie, of the 13th March, 1809, naturally tended to foment. In that minute, and in the public clamour, the absence of corrupt motives was considered as entitling Mr. Smith to an acquittal from blame, and it was forgotten that the government had to protect itself against factious opposition, as well as to punish corruption.

Another fruitful source of obloquy against the government, has been its conduct with reference to the prosecutions in the supreme court, connected with the subject of the Carnatic debts.

The commissioners appointed by the right honourable the governor-general in council, and invested by the covenants entered into between the honourable company and the creditors, and by the legislature, with powers wholly independent of the governor, applied to this government for the professional assistance of their law officers in certain cases, in which they considered that assistance to be of importance to the objects of their appointments. Their government complied with the request of the commissioners, whom they considered to be the only competent judges of the question. In this, as well as in every other part of that discussion, our view of the subject has since been fully confirmed by the governor-general in council in his letter to this government, dated 24th April last. This interference of the government soon became, in the then agitated state of the public mind, an additional source of loud complaint; the cause of government was identified with that of the servants of the nabob, who had been appointed to assist the company in the examination of the Durbar accounts; and these servants stood their several trials under all the load of public odium, which faction could heap up against a cause to which the government had considered it to be its duty to afford its support. Three successive verdicts, to each of which the supreme court has refused to give effect, shewed the misguided state of the public feelings. That constitutional interposition of the court became in turn the object of invective: a body of gentlemen, headed by Mr. Roebuck, voted an address and a piece of plate to the counsel for the late prosecutions, as a champion of the rights of juries, which were pretended to have been violated by the acts of the court, under the influence of the government.

I have most sensibly felt the support and countenance which that factious outcry received from the minutes of Mr. Petrie, dated 30th December, 1808, and 10th and 15th February, 1809; in which he insists, that the interference of the commissioners and of the government was improper.

It will be remembered, that these trials took place at the same moment when lieutenant-general Macdowall, after visiting several of the divisions of the army, and disseminating those principles of insubordination, the direct consequences of which have of late been so dreadfully felt, had returned to the presidency, where his presence contributed to unite into one mass the whole body of oppositions against the interests of the government; to him also, a number of gentlemen, principally in the civil and military services of the government, headed by Mr. Roebuck, paid the tribute of approbation, by the vote of an address and a service of plate, to which his true claims with most of the subscribers cannot be misunderstood.

When the opposition to the government had acquired such a strength as to impede the public measures, it became the duty of the government to suppress it. Among others, the conspicuous part taken by Mr. Roebuck, in every point in which the public interests had been opposed, led to his removal to a situation in which it was supposed that his exertions might be better employed. Upon this occasion also, I had to lament that by the minute of Mr. Petrie, dated 15th February last, this act of the government was attributed to causes very different from those in which it originated, and that it received a construction calculated to inflame the mind of the public, already but too much agitated.

Thus in every question in which the government has had to contend against the public clamour, until it found itself obliged to repel the seditious acts of the officers of the company's army, by the strong hand of authority, Mr. Petrie had withheld from the act of the government, the support of his opinion, which was, on the contrary, thrown into the opposite scale.

When the subsequent questions relative to the seditious conduct of the army, which directly involved the public safety, came successively under the consideration of government, Mr. Petrie, although he did not in council, oppose the suspension of major Boles, and lieutenant-colonel St. Leger, or of the other officers, from the service of the honourable company, yet, when it became generally known that a large portion of the army had subscribed for major Boles's indemnification, and openly treated him as a martyr in their common cause, it is notorious that this officer was habitually received at Mr. Petrie's house. It is equally notorious, that when lieutenant-colonel St. Leger had been suspended for conduct which seriously endangered the authority of the government, and was permitted to come to the presidency only to prepare for his embarkation, he also was received at the house of Mr. Petrie.

It was of the utmost importance to the government in the late struggle, that there should appear to be a decided unanimity in the councils of government, on all the points connected with the support of its authority

against every encroachment: the countenance, therefore, which Mr. Petrie afforded to the suspended officers, could not fail to be productive of the most prejudicial effects on the public interests, and there accordingly appears to have been but one impression abroad, as to the feelings and opinions of Mr. Petrie, with regard to the late measures of the government.

This general impression was confirmed by a late occurrence which presented to Mr. Petrie, equally with the other members of the government, an opportunity of giving the most public and decided proof of their sentiments on the conduct of the officers of the company's army. In the commencement of a rebellion, apparently most formidable, I had acquiesced in the proposal of an address being presented to me from the most respectable persons in station and rank in the settlement, in the hope that their opinion might have some influence in recalling the infatuated officers to a sense of the enormity of the crimes into which they were plunging. That paper will remain for ever in my mind, one among many instances of the benefit which has resulted to my government, from the loyalty and public spirit of that revered magistrate, the chief justice, Sir Thomas Strange, of Mr. Oakes, and Mr. Casamaijor, two of the members of the council, and of major-general Gowdie, commanding the army in chief, whose names were at the head of a list of highly respectable individuals, who came forward at that critical moment to support the cause of legitimate government.

Above all importance at that juncture would have been the signature of Mr. Petrie to that address. One body of the army was actually in rebellion, two others were upon the brink of it. It seemed to be possible that a knowledge of the unanimous opinions and determinations of the members of government respecting the criminal course which the officers of the army were pursuing, and of the certainty of the consequences of their adhering to it, might have made them pause. The address contained no reference to the past acts of the government, in approval of its measures; it was confined to the mere pledge of support to lawful authority, and disapprobation of the mutinous acts of the army. I cannot understand upon what principles any member of this government, or any faithful subject of the king, could withhold his signature from that address, holding the important situation which Mr. Petrie fills; I view his refusal to sign it as a public avowal that he did not wish to be considered as disapproving the acts of the army, and desire to discountenance, by the additional weight of the name of the second member of the government, the criminal designs which that army had formed against it.

It will remain with Mr. Petrie, to explain his motives for having thus systematically countenanced the corrupt, factious, and seditious proceedings, to which I have adverted: it is my duty to notice his conduct, from the prejudicial example which it has afforded to the service, from the serious impediments which I have received from it in the administration of the affairs of government, and from the injury which it has occasioned to the public interests.

(Signed) G. H. Barlow.

Madras, 8th September, 1809.

In a short minute which I delivered in on the 30th ult. I acknowledged having received the preceding evening, the minute of the honourable the president, dated the 21st of last month, and signified my intention of replying, with all practicable dispatch, to the numerous and severe animadversions which that paper contained upon my public conduct for the last twelve months; and imputing to me a considerable part, if not the whole of the effects which have resulted in the natural and almost necessary order of things, from causes of much greater magnitude and importance.

Although the minute of the honourable the president, professes to be a record of his sentiments on some of the occurrences which have agitated the public mind since the commencement of his administration, I cannot discover that it contains any other matter, or that it has been written with any other intention, than to convey a severe invective and general accusation against my conduct as member of this government.

From a series of occurrences of which at present I shall only speak as far as is necessary for the explanation and vindication of my conduct, the British interests under this government have been brought into a state of more imminent risk and danger than was even experienced in the most arduous struggles of former times, when our possessions were over-run by a hostile force, and when the army of Hyder Ally approached to the walls of Madras; and although we have most providentially, I had almost said miraculously, escaped from the immediate effects of the storm with which we were threatened, it is natural to suppose that government, our immediate superiors, and the public at large, will require to know from what cause, or by what means the state has been exposed to such an alarming crisis, which in my opinion, is to be traced to an origin, and to causes of a very different nature to the one assigned by the honourable the president. To judge from the tenor, the evident temper, and apparent tendency of the minute of the honourable the president, I cannot avoid concluding that the intention is to throw the responsibility of the late events, or at least a considerable part of them, upon me, and to impute to my opposition to his measures the consequences, which are in my judgment deducible in a great degree from those measures themselves, and unconnected with any other cause.

In this part of my reply, I shall confine myself as closely as possible to the subject of Sir George Barlow's minute; and however acute my feelings on being obliged, after more than forty years public service, to defend my character from such deliberate, unexpected, and unfounded charges, I trust those feelings will not for a moment induce me to lose sight of the respect and attention which is due, and which I have always paid, to the president of the council.

In explanation of certain circumstances on which the honourable the president has founded his first cause of complaint against me, but which he has not fully or distinctly detailed, it is necessary that I should advert to some circumstances which occurred previously to my opposition to the measure against Mr. Sherson.

When absent from the presidency in the month of June last year, on account of my health, I first heard of considerable discontents in the army, and understanding that they partly arose from the reductions which were then carrying into effect, I wrote to such of the principal officers of the army as I was acquainted with, and explained to them, that the reductions were in consequence of orders from the court of directors and the supreme government; that they had been commenced under the administration of lord William Bentinck, carried on by myself; and that Sir George Barlow was now only following up and carrying into effect the same orders. At the same time I took considerable pains to remove the misconceptions which had been formed relative to the abolition of the tent contract; and to shew that whatever unpopularity attached to that measure, no part of it ought to fall on the present governor.

Much about the same time, the late Mr. Hurdis visited me at Cuddalore, and strongly urged my immediate return to the presidency, as he thought I might be of use in stopping the growing discontents of the settlement, which, he said, had arisen from the apparent harsh and severe tendency of the measures of government, especially on the proceedings against Mr. Sherson, which to many appeared to be repugnant to the rules of the service, and the rights of the company's servants when under accusation. Mr. Hurdis is not alive to confirm this statement, but there is a gentleman now in the settlement who was present with me at that time.

On my arrival at Madras the ensuing month, I found a very general dissatisfaction, not only among the company's servants, but in the society at large (as I was informed, for my health did not enable me to mix much in company), and that the proceedings against Mr. Sherson were very generally condemned. However much it may be the wish to impute every impression unfavourable to the government to my means, it will not, I suppose, be said that I participated in the causes which gave rise to the unpopularity that then prevailed in the settlement. I had been absent, I had given no opinions on the subjects under discussion, nor was my judgment made up on Mr. Sherson's case, until some time after my return. Mr. Sherson was not, I think, calculated to collect or to head a party, nor was his cause likely to interest the service, but it was the unprecedented manner in which the enquiry into his conduct was carried on, which was generally considered to be a dangerous departure from principles not less sanctioned by law, than by the established practice of the service, and introducing an innovation on the forms of enquiry which might operate with equal disadvantage to the innocent, as well as to the guilty. It was my positive duty to investigate the subject to its bottom, not only with regard to the public, but to myself from having concurred with lord William Bentinck in the arrangement which placed Mr. Sherson in charge of the public grain. Every paper and statement I considered and examined with unbiassed attention. I neither gave up my judgment to the opinions of the advocate-general or to the committee, but I searched for truth myself in those documents and papers of which I was as capable of judging as either of those authorities. During this examination I had frequently occasion to send for Mr. Sherson to explain certain entries on the accounts and statements, which he could best do, but except on those occasions, I believe Mr. Sherson very seldom came to my house; but if he had, I should not have conceived that I was doing wrong in receiving him, because I have been brought to consider every man innocent until he is proved to be guilty. The result of my examination, and every opinion I formed upon that subject, I communicated fully to the honourable the president. I stated at much length, in different conversations, the grounds on which I disagreed with the majority of the committee in their reports against Mr. Sherson, and when I found that I could not conscientiously concur in the sentence of the president in council, it was my duty, as it has been repeatedly explained and enforced by the honourable court of directors, to record my dissent. To that paper, which is on record, I must refer; and although I must be mortified by the manner in which the honourable the president has noticed that minute, it is allowable for me to hope for a more favourable decision from our superiors at home. My reasoning may be weak, and facts may be misconceived; but I apprehend there never was a minute entered on our proceedings more free from declamation than the paper to which I now allude.

With respect to the opinions I recorded on the removal of Mr. Roebuck and Mr. Cecil Smith from their offices, however much I regretted the necessity I was under of disagreeing with the honourable the president on the justice and expediency of those measures, I must still adhere to those opinions,

and trust to the candour of the honourable court for a more favourable construction of my motives, than they have received in the strictures to which I am now replying. I had no interest in these discussions, I could have none; if I were convinced of the innocence of these gentlemen, was it not my bounden, and indispensable duty, to oppose their punishment. I thought them valuable servants of the public, and it was my duty to support them; I thought the service would suffer from their removal from important situations for which they were peculiarly well qualified, and it was my duty to dissent to the measure. I did not know until now that I had incurred the displeasure of the honourable the president for so doing.

Is a member of council merely to give his assent, his minute to record, or register the acts of the governor? Very different duties are allotted him by the honourable court, who enjoins him, under pain of their displeasure, to record his opposition if the subject shall appear to him of importance to require it.*

I regret that it has been found necessary by the honourable the president to bring into the list of accusations against me the name of the late Mr. Roebuck, who has sunk under his misfortunes with circumstances of peculiar distress to his family, and whose death has been sincerely deplored by all who knew him, and justly appreciated his merits. I have known Mr. Roebuck intimately for more than twenty years. I was his friend while living, and will not abandon his memory when dead; more especially as that event has taken place without his having had an opportunity of clearing himself of the accusations recorded against him.

I was not connected with, nor did I communicate with any of the parties to which the honourable the president alludes; but I have been assured by those who cannot be deceived, that Mr. Roebuck neither "headed" the party of gentlemen who voted the piece of plate to general Macdowall or to Mr. Marsh, and that his being the chairman at the meeting was entirely accidental, without any previous intention or arrangement. As this subject has been brought forward on the present occasion against me, I have enquired into the occurrences, and have obtained more information than I possessed before. I have also seen the list of the names of the gentlemen who subscribed to the complimentary presents to general Macdowall and Mr. Marsh, and find amongst them some of the most respectable members of our society, whose attachment to the present government has not only never been called in question or doubted, but, on different occasions, some of these gentlemen have been distinguished by public and very marked approbation. Until now I am not certain that I ever saw the letter or address to general Macdowall. I have read it since, and find the compliment paid is merely confined to his private and social qualities, without one expression that, by the most forced construction, can be made to apply to those subjects which soon afterwards produced such an unhappy misunderstanding with the government.

The honourable the president is perfectly correct in imputing to the trials, verdicts, and proceedings in the supreme court, relative to the forged bonds of the late nabob, the very general agitation and interest which appeared to affect the community, and to produce, not the clamour of a faction as it is termed by the president, but a sentiment nearly unanimous throughout the settlement, not in its origin nor object manifesting either opposition or disrespect to the government, which certainly ought not to be considered as a party in these trials, as we act merely for the company, and should have no other interest in the investigation of the claims than to prevent the misapplication of the fund they had gratuitously granted to the creditors of the late nabobs; and it should have been the same to us whether frauds and forgeries were detected by the talents of Mr. Marsh, or by the ability and labours of the company's counsel and the commissioners. The subject of the trials was a struggle and contest, not only for the division of property, but in the course of the proceedings, questions of great moment and importance upon more general rights and principles were brought into discussion, in which, in my opinion, government ought to have remained perfectly neuter.

That three successive verdicts of as respectable juries as were impannelled at Madras, should prove the misguided state of the public feelings, appears to me a most extraordinary mode of establishing the fact, which is assumed, but not proved. To an English mind, I apprehend, the premises would lead to the opposite conclusion; at any rate, whatever might be our private feelings or opinions, on this singular case, a variety of reasons existed at that time, which should, in my judgment, have prevented the open interference of government in those trials. It was from that interference, and in some instances not a common interference, that the settlement expressed an alarm at the executive supreme authority having thrown its influence and power into the scale of one of the parties. It is necessary for my defence that I should explain the grounds of my opinion more fully than I have hitherto done. To avoid the appearance of a wish to oppose, the minute

* Vide act of Parliament, and repeated orders of the honourable court on various occasions, particularly with respect to the dissents of Mr. Saunders during the government of lord Hobart; and in my own case, during the administration of lord Clive and lord William Bentinck.

I recorded at the time contains little more than a general disapprobation and dissent to the proceedings; I am now sensible that I acted too much under the influence of that wish, and that, to prevent controversy, I have on too many occasions avoided to record the conviction I felt on the danger and inexpediency of the resolutions of government. If this charge is brought against me, I must plead guilty.

In the unlimited support which we gave to the commissioners for investigating the Carnatic debts, it appeared to me that we were unnecessarily interfering in discussions of private property; and in the measures we adopted for supporting the persons convicted of capital offences, by means which were generally understood to have a direct tendency to influence the juries, and to mark the displeasure of government in cases where the executive power should never be seen or felt. It is not more probable that the agitation in the public mind was produced by the verdicts, and the subsequent measures, than that the verdicts were influenced by the clamour of the settlement, and the misguided feelings of the juries? I thought we acted unconstitutionally, and involved the company and ourselves in an unnecessary and weighty responsibility. I was also of opinion, that we extended the support of government far beyond what was in the contemplation of the honourable court of directors, when they transmitted to us their orders on this subject.

These being my deliberate and conscientious opinions, I did not more than my duty in recording my dissent, in which I defy the ingenuity and malice of my enemies to point out an expression, or to mark a sentiment, which indicates a desire to oppose or to dissent from the operations of government. Nay, I will appeal to every candid mind, if it is not apparent, from the style and manner of every dissent which I have entered on our proceedings, during the government of Sir George Barlow, that I performed that duty with reluctance, that I have avoided every thing like declamation or controversy, and that I have confined myself briefly to the object of the dissent; but even if my dissents had been of the nature and tendency described by the president, how could they have furnished topics of declamation, or encouraged the outcry against the government, unless they had been published or circulated in the settlement. By me they certainly never were.

It is necessary here to explain, in order to prevent the effect which was perhaps intended by the remark, that the governor-general approved of those proceedings of the Madras government, that I am fully aware of this approbation which has since been given to those measures; but as my opposition to them took place before any decision was received from that authority, I am now justified in explaining the view I took of the subject, and the grounds on which my opinions were founded. I beg leave to be understood as applying the same explanation to certain subsequent measures of this government, in which I did not concur, and which have since been sanctioned by the supreme authority. No disrespect can be imputed to me for indulging a hope, that, if all the circumstances connected with the cases on which references were made had been known to the governor-general, his decision might in some respects have been different.

In expressing this sentiment, it is far from my intention to insinuate that this government withheld from the governor-general in council any information which it was judged necessary to communicate to him.

I have now to answer those parts of the honourable the president's minute, which appear to me the most serious and important, as they impute to my conduct consequences with respect to the army, which, by insinuation and inference, may be worked up into an offence of a very criminal nature.

It is certainly altogether unexpected, and not a little painful to me, to be called upon, at this advanced period of my public service, to repel an accusation of this description and tendency; but the charge has been preferred, and it is incumbent on me to reply to it with firmness, moderation, and respect.

The president states, that when government was obliged to repel the acts of the army by the strong hand of authority, I withheld from the act of the government the support of my opinion, and that on the contrary, I threw it into the opposite scale. As I thought the measure of government was calculated to create a dangerous ferment in the army, I could not support it with my opinion, but I positively deny that I gave any support to those who opposed the government. The honourable president proceeds to say, that although I did not in council oppose the suspension of Major Boles and colonel St. Leger, or of the other officers from the service, yet, when it became generally known that a large part of the army had subscribed a sum of money for major Boles, and treated him as a martyr in their common cause, it is notorious that this officer was habitually received at my house; and when colonel St. Leger, after suspension, was allowed to come to the presidency, it is equally notorious that he was also received in the same manner. How the notoriety of these visits at my house has been established, or by what means the honourable the president acquired this knowledge, I shall not at present enquire; but I positively deny the accuracy of the report that has been made, and affirm, that in the sense the expression of the honourable the president will be generally taken, these officers were not habitually received at my house. That colonel St. Leger, major Boles, and captain Grant, who with honourable distinction commanded the body guard during three administrations pre-

vious to the present, occasionally, not habitually, called upon me, I acknowledge and avow; for, as all the objects of my communications with these officers were, through their influence, to allay the alarming ferment which was rapidly spreading from one station of the army to the other, to preserve peace and prevent disorder, I can have no desire to conceal them. I was assured by colonel St. Leger, on the honour of an officer and a gentleman, that he was guiltless of the charge for which he was degraded, as he could have proved to universal conviction if he had been allowed a hearing; that so far from exciting the officers under his command to insubordination and disobedience, he had incontrovertible evidence to shew that he had endeavoured to check their agitation, and to discourage every idea of openly opposing the authority of government.

Part of this evidence he communicated to me, which was not less honourable to his feelings and his intentions, than it was conclusive of the alarming fact of a most dangerous combination in the southern army to resist the orders of government, and to insist on a redress of grievances. This, with many other proofs of increasing dissatisfaction, I have reason to believe were communicated, although not directly, by colonel St. Leger, and captain Grant, to Sir George Barlow; of this fact I was assured by these two officers.

I must beg leave to call to the recollection of the honourable the president, that when he expressed a wish to the members of council, after our meeting of 1st May, that the officers who had fallen under the public displeasure of government should not be invited to the houses of the members of council, I remarked, that such had not been the usual practice of this settlement, unless the offence of the officer was of such a nature as to affect his moral character, and to render him unworthy of being admitted into general society; but that, agreeably to the wish of the honourable the president, I should observe the rule he desired to be established. From that time until the departure of colonels Bell, St. Leger, major Boles, and captain Grant, not one of these officers was ever asked to my house. Colonel Bell, I never saw after his removal from his command, although I had long known and greatly esteemed that respectable officer, of whose fidelity and attachment to the government and the service I had received the most unequivocal proofs.

Colonel St. Leger, whose rank in the army, whose recent brilliant services in Travancore, so publicly and honourably acknowledged by government, the rank and distinction of his family entitled him to attention in society, which were certainly not obliterated by his late suspension, called upon me on his arrival at the presidency at the hour of breakfast, which, according to the custom of India, is the usual time when visits are received by people of a certain rank in the settlement. I trust, even the president will not be disposed to blame me for admitting colonel St. Leger, under these circumstances, to take a seat at my table. I am not certain, and really do not remember, if major Boles ever breakfasted with me after the orders of the 1st May: it is possible he may, but not within my recollection.

These officers, whom I have said occasionally called upon me, did not do so on the subject of their own sufferings, or to prefer complaints against the government; for I declare most solemnly, that on these topics they never once addressed me, except to give the most positive assurance that they asked for no revocation of the orders respecting themselves, and would wait with patience the decision of the court of directors. Their communications with me were on very different subjects; and whatever prejudice I may do my own cause by defending theirs, I should be guilty of the most unmanly injustice if I were not to declare, that these officers laboured most zealously and sincerely to prevent the violent measures which have since taken place.

Major Boles, I have grounds for believing, was not previously informed of the intentions of the army with respect to himself; and I am further convinced, that he would cheerfully have relinquished the pecuniary assistance they proposed to give him, to have allayed the agitation which was then beginning to assume an alarming aspect.

I could not imagine that by endeavouring to ascertain the real state of the public discontents by fair and honourable means, and by encouraging these gentlemen in using their influence with their brother officers to repress the spirit of insubordination, which had already broke out in different divisions of the army, that I was departing from my duty, or subjecting myself to the imputation of encouraging the complaints of the officers.

The honourable the president thought the discontents of the army were confined to a few—to a faction composed of a small number of seditious officers—whereas, my information induced me to believe that the sentiment of irritation under the late measures was general, and agitated nearly all the corps in the army. The enquiry was not for myself, it was not for the gratification of idle curiosity, and still less for such improper purposes as is more than insinuated in different parts of the president's minute; but it was to be well informed upon one of the most important subjects that ever came under the consideration of an Indian government. The results of my enquiries were not concealed from the president; and as often as he afforded me an opportunity of speaking to him, I fully communicated my opinions and sentiments, and the serious apprehensions I entertained that we were urging on a crisis which might prove the ruin of our power in India.

In the conviction produced in my mind

from the information which I obtained from these and other respectable sources, I thought it my duty to recommend and to support, by, every argument I could suggest, the policy, the expediency, nay, the indispensable necessity of adopting measures of lenity and conciliation, and to avert the consequences which have in part been so fatally felt.

I contemplated the revolt of the army, or a civil war, as a calamity of such infinite magnitude, that hardly any sacrifice was too great to prevent it. As to my own sentiments and opinions on the late deplorable occurrences, I trust they are well known, and I flatter myself they will do me no discredit with my employers and my country, when it may be necessary to produce evidence in defence of my conduct; they were confined to a few points, and may be explained in a few words. The grievances of the army or of individuals, whatever they may be, can only be redressed by the means presented by our blessed constitution, and that to attempt redress by force, violence, and aggression, would probably lead to scenes of bloodshed, horror, and convulsion, unparalleled in an eastern history. No man has exerted the means he possessed with more unremitting zeal than I have done to check the excesses in the army. By my own influence, which, from having been known for a number of years to the higher class of officers in this army, I was told was considerable, and by the influence of others with whom I communicated at the presidency, I never ceased to point out the fatal consequences of revolt against the legal authority, and by every argument and inducement which seldom fail to operate on an English mind, I endeavoured to moderate and restrain their exasperated feelings within the bounds of reason, propriety, and duty.

I have had but few correspondents amongst the officers at the out stations, and for the last two or three months none; but I have communicated confidentially and fully with some public officers at the presidency of acknowledged honour, respectability, and experience, and when necessary, I shall be happy to call upon them to bear testimony to my opinions; to the horror I invariably expressed at the excess of the army, and to the anxious solicitude which I manifested for the restoration of tranquillity and subordination; and I will plead guilty to the whole of the charge if it can be proved, or even rendered probable, that I expressed a sentiment or uttered one word which tended to encourage the discontents of the army.

If the honourable the president means to say that I recorded no dissent to the suspension of Major Boles, and the many others which took place from the orders of the 1st of May, he is perfectly correct. But if it is the intention to infer from this, that I concurred in those measures, or that I expressed no disapprobation of them, or apprehension of their injurious consequences, I must positively deny the fairness of the inference. I flatter myself the honourable the president will recollect, that in various conversations on these subjects, I stated, clearly and explicitly, my opinion of the impolicy of the measures of severity we were pursuing; that I considered them inapplicable, hazardous, and totally disproportioned to the object, and to the magnitude of the emergency. I thought we were risking by far too much, and that rather than conciliate the army, we were endangering the security of our Indian empire. That greater powers than ours had conceded to expediency or necessity, and by wisely bending for the moment to circumstances which power cannot controul, have averted and turned aside the overthrow of the state, and the extinction of all constituted authorities. To my judgment, the repeal of every order passed for the last eight months would be a lesser evil than the shedding of a drop of British blood in a civil contest; upon the whole of this subject I had the misfortune to differ widely from the honourable the president. To him it seems to have appeared, that under almost every circumstance, concession must be considered as the greater evil; whereas to me, as a feather, when placed in the scale against the revolt of the army, a civil war, and the probable loss of the country. In this difference of opinion there was, I hope, nothing criminal. Men with equal good intentions, may see subjects of great importance in a different light. He thought it better to risk an immense stake, an empire, than rescind an order; but in a case so disproportioned, in which we might inflict a mortal wound on the interest of our native country, I wished to yield the form rather than endanger the substance. I impute to no man who differs in opinion with me on these subjects, any other motives than what are honourable and just; but I must regret that I have not experienced the same liberal candour from others as I have shewn to them. One might infer from the apparent construction of certain parts in the honourable the president's minute, that criminality attaches to me generally, for having opposed any of the measures of his government; and I am the more induced to take this interpretation of his sentiments, from the disapprobation he has avowed at recording dissents, even on occasions when every tie of duty called on a member of council to exercise his judgment, and record his opinions. Opposition and controversy are always painful to me, but until the honourable court is pleased to rescind its repeated orders upon this subject, and the legislature to relieve the members of council from any joint responsibility, I shall consider it to be my duty to obey these orders, and to conform to the sanctioned practice of this service.

It is therefore, I trust, evident that opposition to the measures of the honourable the president, cannot in itself constitute any ground of criminality or offence, and that such opposition is only culpable if it betrays grea

want of judgment, or dereliction of proper principles. I hope I am guilty of no disrespect in observing, that on the merits or expediency of the measures we are still at issue.

It is my duty to obey any order of government while I remain in the service of the honourable company, and I have invariably done so to the best of my judgment; but where a difference of opinion has arisen, I am justified, nay, it is my duty, to support my opinions by the best reasons and arguments in my power.

The honourable the president cannot feel more pleasure than I do on the prospect of returning tranquillity, but I cannot admit that it is conclusive or satisfactory evidence against my judgment, or to the sound policy of the proceedings I thought myself obliged to disapprove. The measure, or expediency of measures, ought not to be tried by the event; they may have been impolitic and dangerous although, by great and singular good fortune, the result has proved successful: should those we have pursued be crowned with the most complete and brilliant termination, yet if it should nevertheless appear that more has been risked than in wisdom should have been exposed to danger, I apprehend a decision will not be passed in our favour.

I sincerely rejoice in the present calm which has succeeded the rudest tempest that ever assailed our eastern empire; and I ardently hope that the consequences of this unnatural conflict, this new era in the history of Hindostan, may have no unfavourable effects on the security and permanency of these valuable and important possessions.

Although not immediately or directly connected with the charges against me, yet from the singular nature of the present case, the situation in which I am placed, and the evident intention of criminality, my judgment or my principles, for the opinions I have entertained on the subjects which led to the unhappy agitation in the minds of the army, I hope I may be permitted to offer a few observations in order to shew the grounds and principles on which I formed my judgment, and adopted the opinions which at different times I have explained to the honourable the president. No man can be less disposed to approve of the intemperate order which general Macdowall published to the troops previous to his departure, or to palliate any misconduct which tends to encourage sentiments of insubordination in the army; and although I fully admit that the publication of that order was disrespectful to government, and called for a suitable manifestation of our displeasure, yet in my opinion our paramount duty was to have considered not the extent of our power to punish general Macdowall, but to have taken such measures as, in our deliberate opinions, were best calculated to counteract the effects we apprehended, and to prevent injury to the public interests. Upon every view I then took of the case, and as it now appears to me, not from the subsequent events, but from circumstances connected with the opinions I then formed, I am decidedly of opinion that we ought to have abstained from any act of personal hostility to general Macdowall; to have cautiously avoided a measure which would most certainly increase the agitation in the army; and, while we vindicated the authority of government by the publication of an appropriate order, to have allowed the General to leave India without any further marks of our displeasure. If we had fortunately pursued this course, I am convinced that the General, and the order, would have been forgotten in the course of a few weeks, and in this opinion I have been fully confirmed by the concurring sentiment of the most respectable officers in the army, and of some who disapproved of the General's last order as much as any member of government. The measure we adopted neither intimidated nor convinced; the subordination of the army was not improved; the bonds of obedience were not strengthened; nor did we add lustre to the dignity of government, by impressing the minds of the officers with more just and suitable ideas of our power and authority. The removal and suspension of colonel Capper and major Boles, the adjutant and deputy-adjutant-general, for acting officially in publishing the general order to the army, was regretted and condemned by almost every officer on the establishment, and not less so by those in his majesty's service, than by those in the company's army. It was a new, a singular, and generally thought to be a dangerous case, to punish officers for obeying the orders of their superiors, and for doing what the military affirm could not be construed into an illegal act; nor could the most extravagant conjecture impute to these two officers the remotest intention of creating a mutiny in the army. It was universally considered as a dangerous innovation in military practice, and a new feature in the constitution, which by encouraging the army to form itself into a deliberate body, would naturally lead to insubordination and disobedience in all the gradations of military rank and authority.

It was said, that if subordinate officers are brought to discuss and decide upon the legality of the orders of their superiors, we introduce a practice of incalculable evil, neither justified by the spirit nor practice of the laws.

Is it not better, they said, to let the responsibility rest with the authority which issues the order, except in cases so plain that the violation of the established laws, is evident to the meanest capacity? But whether these opinions, with the of which I was so strongly impressed at the period of the suspension of the two officers on the general

staff, were well or ill founded, it is not for me to decide. The highest authority in India, to which I shall ever bow with submission, has established the distinction, and has defined the bearings and relations of this most delicate question.

It is not I conceive necessary, on this occasion, to offer any observations on the subsequent measures pursued by this government, towards the officers of the army; many of them appeared to me inexpedient and hazardous; and although for the present, general tranquillity has been re-established, I must ever regret that it was judged necessary to resort to extreme measures, which have given a serious shock to the consitution, the discipline, and subordination of the company's native army, which have agitated and disturbed the minds of the native troops, and taught them to contemplate distinctions of infinite danger to their future fidelity and attachment.

I think happier effects might have been produced at a less expence. The coast army I have known from my earliest youth; I have seen, respected, and admired their gallant services, which have so often been the theme of praise and exultation. I have lamented their errors, and have bitterly deplored and hold in abhorrence their excesses; whatever influence I have has been zealously employed to check the progress of disorder, and to recal the misguided officers to a sense of their duty. To the very few with whom I have communicated, I can confidently appeal for my sentiments and conduct on the late melancholy events; and although I will not now agitate a question (however favourable its result might be to myself) which can in any respect embarrass the proceedings of government, yet, when this cause no longer exists, it may hereafter be allowable for me to shew that, in some cases, my exertions have not been altogether ineffectual.

I am obliged to the honourable the president, for having given me an opportunity of explaining the circumstances respecting the late address of a part of the inhabitants of this settlement to the president in council, or the government, as far as I am interested in that transaction, although it is too evident that sentiments of a very different nature than kindness to me, have rendered this explanation necessary.

Before I enter into any general observations upon the address itself, its merits and tendency, I will take the liberty of inserting the following copy of it; with the letter I wrote to the honourable the president, which assigns my reasons for not signing the address, and which I thought would have prevented any unfavourable construction of my conduct.

To the honourable Sir G. Barlow, baronet, knight of the bath, governor and president in council of Fort St. George, and its dependencies, &c. &c.

Honourable Sir,

We whose names are hereunto subscribed, impressed with a deep sense of our duty to our country, and of the necessity of good order and obedience to the constituted authorities, beg leave to tender you at this moment of difficulty and danger, our assurances of support to the interest of government, and of our readiness to devote our lives and fortunes to the maintenance of the public tranquillity in any way which to you in your wisdom may seem meet to command them. We desire to take this opportunity of publicly expressing our fullest disapprobation of that spirit of insubordination which has recently shewn itself amongst the officers serving under the presidency of Fort St. George, fully convinced that it is the duty of every good subject to yield obedience to the command of those whom the will of his sovereign, and the laws of his country, have placed in authority over him, and patiently to await the result of a reference to Europe for the redress of supposed grievances; any conduct impatient of the period of such appeal, and backward to the calls of professional service, we regard as subversive of all good order and discipline, hostile to the constitution of our native country, and big with danger to the existence of the British empire in India; and we therefore, honourable Sir, beg to repeat the assurances of our firm determination to resist the operation of such principles, which we are convinced must be equally reprobated and condemned by all good and loyal subjects."

Fort St. George, July, 1809.

To the honourable Sir George Barlow, bart. K. B. &c. &c. &c.

Dear Sir,

The enclosed paper was sent to me yesterday afternoon, and as it appears to me, after mature and serious consideration upon the subject, that I cannot with propriety give it my signature, I am desirous of explaining my reasons to you, to prevent misconception, which, however, I do not anticipate from you.

As the address, is to the president in council, or to the government of which I am a member, I think on that ground alone, if there were no other objections, there would be an inconsistency in my signing it; but as there are other considerations, and of more moment, which direct my judgment on this occasion, I shall now take the liberty of explaining them to you with truth, candour, and sincerity.

I think this address proposed to be presented by the inhabitants is premature and unreasonable. I can discover no good purpose that it can produce; but I foresee many serious inconveniences which may result from it. This declaration will not add to the powers

or authority of government, the sentiments of the inhabitants of Madras cannot controul the army; but published in this manner, they will create a great and general alarm, not confined to the European part of the settlement, but diffusing itself through the numerous bodies of natives which compose the population of the Black Town and its vicinities; and producing great individual distress and public embarrassment. This unqualified and strong declaration from the inhabitants is certainly premature, for I hope and trust there is no immediate cause for alarm of this extraordinary tendency. I think it also inexpedient and impolitic, as it will tend to widen the breach which it has been the first wish of my heart to heal, for I must ever contemplate a civil war in our army as the greatest calamity that can befall Britain in this country. But, thank God, the sword is still in the scabbard, where I trust it will remain until drawn against the enemies of the state. This hope I still indulge, and flatter myself that by measures of suitable, just, and seasonable conciliation, that the horrors of a civil conflict may be avoided, that the army will be recalled to a sense of its duty and confidence, and security restored to the country.

When it is necessary to stand forward personally, no man, whatever be his situation, shall step before me in ready and willing sacrifices for the service of my country. Of fortune I have little to boast, but my life shall be cheerfully exposed in defending the interests of my respected employers, and in support of their government.

These are my genuine and well-considered sentiments; but they shall remain with myself, except to you and Mr. Oakes, who sent me the paper.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. PETRIE.

Gardens, 30th July, 1809.

P. S. I trust that no one will impute to me the folly, ignorance, or insanity, of disputing the truth of the general principle on which the address is grounded.

To which I received the following laconic answer:

The honourable W. Petrie, Esq.

Sir,

I have received your note of this date, and have the honour to return the address which it inclosed.

I have the honour to be, Sir, &c.

(Signed) G. H. BARLOW.

Govt. Gardens, 30th July, 1809.

I never knew until I saw the minute of the honourable the president, that he had been consulted by the gentlemen who promoted the address previous to its being presented to him; nor did I then know, I mean when I wrote to the honourable the president, that he attached so very much importance to it, or to the insertion of my signature.

Had propriety been attended to with respect to me, or had the person or persons who prepared, or were connected with the preparation of the address, intended to pay me the compliment that was due to my rank, I ought most certainly to have been consulted on the subject at an earlier period, and before the address was presented to me for signature.

A variety of reasons which peculiarly applied to the period when the address was agitated in the settlement, induced me to think that it might increase irritation and produce unfavourable effects on the disposition of the army, which had then manifested unequivocal proofs of returning subordination and obedience. That it might tear open the wounds which were beginning to heal, and by applying terms to the conduct of the officers (however just abstractedly considered) descriptive of a capital offence, might have a most unfavourable effect on a very considerable part which appeared balancing between the calls of duty and a determination to insist on what they termed a redress of grievances, I thought that such a public manifestation of the sentiments of a part of the settlement, so strongly expressed, could do no possible good, but might add to the difficulties which still opposed our recalling a considerable part of the officers to their duty. In such a case as this, I may appeal to the result, and ask any candid and impartial person, if the hand of government were really strengthened by this address? Did it unite the settlement more firmly in support of our measures, or has it contributed to restore harmony, mutual confidence, and good will, which for the last seven or eight months have been estranged from this society? On the contrary, the discussions produced by that address have, I believe, increased animosity and contention, by giving one subject more for the collision of contrary opinions, which, in the present state of the public mind, disturbs and agitates the general society of the presidency. I must further observe, that the disposition of the community was not favourable to the measure, and the promoters of it ought to have been aware, that they were weakening instead of strengthening the hands of government, by the means which they used to obtain signatures; I cannot believe that these means were reported to the honourable the president.

The address, the president states, was signed by the most respectable persons in the settlement. There were many respectable names to it I allow; but I must at the same time observe, that several of the inhabitants, of acknowledged respectability, both in character and station, declined giving their signatures to this address; and in this number were some whose attachment to the present government, during all the preceding has never been even suspected. I speak of what has come to my knowledge since the address was presented, for I have no reason to believe that my intention not to sign it was known until the list of signatures was published to the settlement.

Notwithstanding, however, the very strong

conviction which was impressed on my mind, unfavourable to the expediency of the address at that time, so sincerely anxious was I to avoid any improper construction which might be applied to the circumstances of my withholding my name, that, in order to ascertain the importance which was attached to my signature, I applied to a person whose public situation was similar to my for information on this point, which I did in the following terms :—" Although I think my reasons just, yet, if the governor in council, or the general sense, attaches any beneficial importance to the public interests, or that it can effect the peace of the settlement, mislead any one, or prevent any mischief, it will become my duty to yield my opinion to theirs, and I shall in that case affix my name." The reply to this enquiry did not give me reason to suppose that either the address itself, or my signature, was essential to any public purpose. It will be apparent, from the terms of the honourable the president's letter to me, that I could not again address him on that subject, however much inclined to have entered into a further explanation of the sentiments by which I was actuated.

The honourable the president has expressed his astonishment and disapprobation at this exercise of my judgment in terms of uncommon severity and reprehension ; but I trust it is not by the asperity or harshness of language, by inference and implication, that my fidelity to my sovereign, attachment to my country, and gratitude to my immediate employers, will be rendered liable to suspicion. The imputation of improper motives is not unfrequently resorted to ; but it can obtain no credit, when totally unsupported by proof or probability. Although inferior to the honourable the president as a member of this government, I may be allowed to say that my motives are as pure and honourable as his, and that I do not yield to him in loyalty to my king, or in zeal to promote the interests of the honourable company. He calls on me to explain my motives, and I reply to the call with confidence and with truth. My motives have been throughout solely directed to the prosperity of my country, the interests of my employers, the honour of the government, and the preservation of my own character.

Sorely wounded as my feelings have been by many parts of the minute of the honourable the president, yet I flatter myself in the reply I have now the honour to deliver in, that no expression or sentiment has escaped me inconsistent with my public situation, and incompatible with the respect which is due to the president of the council. Under the weight and peculiarity of the accusation, I trust I may be allowed to say, without infringing those necessary restraints, that no man, however exalted his station or office, can be justified on such grounds as the president assumes, of imputing to me disloyalty to my sovereign, or a disposition to encourage mutiny and sedition in the army. My general character, the situations I have filled in the public service, and the estimation in which I have been held by my revered superiors, should have exempted me from such a cruel and unfounded imputation.

(Signed) W. PETRIE.

(A true copy.)

(Signed) A. FALCONAR,
Chief Sec. to govt.

Dissent of John Alexander Bannerman, Esq.

If it be incumbent on the members of this court, who have formed decided opinions on such public measures as become the objects of discussion, to record the grounds on which those opinions have been formed, that duty becomes the more imperative when the judgment of the court has been so equally divided, as to render it necessary for the treasurer to determine the question by drawing a lot. I shall accordingly proceed to state my sentiments on this subject at greater length, and with more care, than I should consider to be necessary in an ordinary case of dissent from the opinion of the majority.

Having stated in my place as a director, " That all the evils which we have to lament in the disgraceful and guilty state of the Fort St. George army, may, in a great degree, be ascribed to the acts of that government," it would be a dereliction of the principles involved in an opinion which I have seen no cause to relinquish, if I were to neglect to enter my protest against the measure of removing Mr. Petrie from the council of Fort St. George, for his opposition to a system of proceeding which has received my public disapprobation; and I do hereby most earnestly and solemnly protest against the said measure accordingly.

In recording the grounds of this protest, it is not my intention to occupy the time of the court with an examination of the facts and reasonings contained in the minutes of sir George Barlow and of Mr. Petrie, which have been presented, through a very unusual channel, to the consideration of the court of directors.

The temperate reply of Mr. Petrie, furnishes so complete a refutation of the accusations of Sir George Barlow, that the best friends of the former gentleman may safely leave to this production the care of providing for his vindication and defence. But the grounds of the opinions which I shall have the honour to submit, are altogether foreign from personal feelings towards either of the public servants, whose conduct is at issue. To ascertain the public tendency of that conduct, and its consequent claim to approbation or blame, is the only legitimate purpose of public enquiry, and I can conscientiously affirm, that through the whole of this discussion, no other object has been present to my mind.

The reasons which I have to adduce for the protesting against the removal of Mr. Petrie,

will necessarily rest on my conviction of the impropriety of the measures which he opposed, and the proofs of this impropriety will most conveniently resolve themselves into the form of certain distinct objections which I have to offer against the conduct of Sir George Barlow, governor in council at Fort St. George; but before proceeding to enumerate these objections, a few preliminary remarks will enable me to introduce them to the notice of the court in a more distinct and intelligible manner.

In all the earlier stages in which the conduct of the government of Fort St. George has come under the consideration of this court, I have expressed an apprehension, founded even on the imperfect documents then before us, that better information would exhibit grounds rather of censure than approbation; and I delivered my protest against the final measures of punishment, which were in the contemplation of this court, for these express reasons, added to the fundamental injustice of any decision founded on a hearing of one side of the question.

I regret to observe, that every subsequent information has confirmed the apprehensions, which I had originally felt myself compelled to entertain, and has led to the conviction, that all the evils, which we have to lament in the present disgraceful state of the army at Fort St. George, may, in a great degree, be ascribed to the acts of that government.

I have not hesitated to concur in general approbation of the firmness of the government in determining not to concede to actual rebellion, points on which, in other circumstances, concession would have been expedient: it will be recollected that I limited this approbation to the single act of declining to concede, and to the measures of decision which were adopted subsequently to the 1st May, 1809; but even in the execution of these acts of energy, I must express my unqualified disapprobation of some of the subsidiary measures, as tending to purchase a doubtful and temporary good at the price of certain and permanent evil.

I should have been disposed to have commenced my objections against the government of Fort St. George, with a formal charge of impropriety in the impolitic and inexpedient change introduced in a system of providing and carrying the camp equipage of the army, which, after the most careful and open discussion, had been adopted by a former government, approved by the court of directors, and confirmed by the actual test of its distinguished efficiency on field service, if part of the blame of reversing this measure had not been shifted from the government of Madras to that over which Sir George Barlow had previously presided. I will, however, observe, before dismissing this subject, that a measure which the military board (the organ provided by the constitution of our government for the consideration of all important questions of military detail) had been invited to discuss and examine, and, after a long investigation, had matured and completed, was reversed without being subjected to the revision of that board.

I shall now proceed to state (as nearly as is practicable in the order of time in which they occurred, and with such explanations as appear to be requisite) my objections to those measures of the government of Fort St. George, which form the ground and reasons for my protesting against the removal of Mr. Petrie for his opposition to those measures.

Objection 1st.

For an unwarrantable interference with the legal authority of the commander-in-chief, by impeding the regular course of military justice, as by law established, in prohibiting the trial of lieutenant-colonel Munro the quarter-master-general, ordered into arrest, on a regular charge preferred against him to the commander-in-chief, by certain officers "for false and infamous insinuations tending to injure their "characters as officers" in an official report; and for directing the release of that officer from arrest by a positive order, although warned by the commander-in-chief of the illegality of such proceeding, and informed of his intention to charge lieutenant-colonel Munro with the additional crime of personal disrespect to himself; thereby arrogating to the governor-in-council a power expressly vested in the commander-in-chief alone, by the act of the 27th of George the 2d, for the better government of the East India company's forces, which act directly deprives the governor-in-council of any of the presidencies of all power regarding courts martial, whenever any of his majesty's troops shall be serving under such presidency.

I am aware I may be told, that the government of Madras has exonerated lieutenant-colonel Munro from any imputation of blame by "adopting his report as their own." Instead of a palliation, this would form the fair ground of a distinct and aggravated accusation, for giving the sanction of their authority to aspersions complained of "as false and infamous," for the purpose of sheltering a favoured individual from the regular course of justice, at the same time, that by the same abuse of authority, they deprived the complaining individuals of the means of proving the falsehood of the aspersions.

I am not deterred by the ability and eloquence with which the aspersions of character, complained of by the officers commanding corps, has been studiously and most ingeniously confounded with the act of government founded on that aspersion, from pointing out to this court the miserable sophistry of the attempt. If these insinuations were false, still, if they were believed and adopted by the governor of Fort St. George, and believed and approved by that of Bengal, they had produced the utmost possible effect that calumny can inflict, by wounding the character of the complainants in that exact quarter where loss of character was most fatal to their

honour and their interests. The act had been done for which the largest possible damages would be awarded by a court of law; but it is wretched sophistry to contend, that because a public act had been founded on this calumny, it therefore ceased to be calumny, and that the complaint of the original aspersion shall be charged as disrespect to the authorities who were deceived by the calumny.

The degradation of the character and office of the commander-in-chief, by this contemptuous extinction of his military prerogative, and the direct encouragement given to insubordination, in supporting the immediate staff of the commander-in-chief against his lawful military authority, are fatal wounds to the discipline of the army; nor can the weak and inefficient plea be permitted to avail, of assuming the predetermination of any court-martial that could be assembled, to commit an act of deliberate injustice contrary to their oath. A prisoner brought for trial before a court-martial has the right to challenge, on sufficient cause, any number of the members of that court; the dispatches from Madras give abundant reason to confide at least in his majesty's officers, and the act does not prohibit such court being formed principally, or even exclusively, of the officers of the crown. The true grounds, therefore, could not have been an apprehension of unjust decision, but an alarm lest investigation should establish the fallacy of that reasoning which government had most unnecessarily adopted "as its own."

Objection 2d.

For rejecting the respectful memorial addressed to this court by the officers who had preferred the charge against lieutenant-colonel Munro, and declining to transmit it, when forwarded for that purpose by the commander-in-chief, stating, "that the transmission of the memorial was objectionable and improper," and it was accordingly returned, thereby shutting the door of appeal to superior authority, and actually suppressing the reference of those officers, and thus persevering, in every stage of this transaction, in interposing power to stop not only the regular course of justice, but the ultimate appeal against oppression.

It is remarkable, that the memorial of these officers expressly disclaims, as a ground of complaint, the measure, which even in subsequent publications the supreme government, and that of Madras, have assumed as the only ground of discontent, and this singular fact may perhaps explain the reluctance of the government of Madras to put the court in possession of a document, which would overturn the professed ground of their reasoning, and the motive of their proceedings; but there is a degree of injustice still more inexplicable, in charging on these officers as a crime their having failed to wait the result of an appeal, which, so far from being forwarded, had been contemptuously returned.

Objection 3d.

For suspending from the service lieutenant-colonel Capper, the adjutant-general, and major Boles, the deputy-adjutant-general, for the strict performance of their military duty, in promulgating the orders of the commander-in-chief; an act crude and unsound in its principles, rash and unnecessary in its application, and which may be considered as the chief ground of general discontent in the army; and, by the subsequent measures growing out of this fatal error, to have been one of the leading causes of the late unfortunate rebellion.

No military proposition can be more clear than the paramount duty of prompt and implicit obedience, particularly in officers, whose main duty it is to watch over the obedience of the army to the orders of its chief. The only objection to this proposition (implicit obedience) would be in the case of an order, broadly, evidently, and positively contrary to some known law of the land, a description obviously inapplicable to the order in question, and most improperly ascribed to it by the very same authority (sir G. Barlow) which three days before had permitted, without question or objection, to be published at Fort St. George and to the army, a general order by the same commander-in-chief (which still remains uncancelled) much more offensive to the constituted authorities by law established, than that which is made the cause of suspending those two officers from the service.

The principles promulgated to the army by these orders of suspension are directly subversive of the foundations of military subordination; they encourage officers to canvas the legality of military orders, to question the relative powers of their superiors, instead of looking immediately and exclusively to the nearest link of the chain, and yielding obedience, in their several gradations, according to the only practicable scheme of military subordination; these principles in short teach soldiers to dispute, instead of to obey; they preach rebellion, and the doctrine has unhappily acquired too many disciples.

Objection 4th.

For promulgating the general orders of the 1st May, 1809, which suspended and degraded, without trial, officers whose characters in the order were publickly stigmatized and rendered dishonourable, on private examination and private information, withholding from the accused the detail of the accusation, the name of the accuser, or any of those circumstances which justice exacts, for the purpose of enabling the accused to repel imputed guilt.

To any person accustomed to consider the principles of the constitution under which we live, it is unnecessary to animadvert on a course of proceeding subversive of those fundamental rights, which it is the object of the law to secure to every British subject; a system of measures, so oppressive in itself, is still farther vitiated by the known fact, that many of the allegations on which the suspensions and degradations were professedly founded, are absolutely false; and by the fair

and probable inference, that others, if not the whole, are either unfounded or grossly aggravated.

The local effect of this injurious measure is distinctly marked upon our records; the portion of the army which was, in that order, highly complimented for its allegiance and fidelity, felt the ties of allegiance dissolved by this act of extreme oppression, flew at once into rebellion, and instantly demanded its repeal.

Among the most singular features of the character of this government, is the long historical order, dated the 12th August, 1809, in which they most modestly claim the praise of moderation and forbearance for a system which, even by their own shewing, exhibits a series of acts of despotic oppression, and in which, as well as in many of their previous publications, they recall to the recollection of the army the principles of that constitution which they themselves, by their own acts, had so unwarrantably violated, charging the officers of the army with "a systematic course of aggression" and of "aggravated indignity;" phrases which most correctly and truly characterize their own proceedings.

Objection 5th.

For having proposed to the company's officers a test, which, pre-supposing disaffection, and seditious combination, was consequently useless, if the supposition was true; a gross injury, as well as insult, if unfounded, and productive of no consequence but the subversion of discipline, by the removal of the officers from their men, and the farther excitement in the native troops of agitations founded on the disorganizing doctrines of the 1st of May.

We have not on public record the details which might be required to establish this objection in its fullest extent, but the facts are too notorious for the pretext of disbelief. The government gazette, which the servants of the company are called upon to receive as official authority, exhibits the result of this extraordinary proposition in the signatures of less than 150 names, out of the whole body of your officers on that establishment, amounting to about 1,300. The absence of public documents is, indeed, one of those facts which I most strongly charge against the government of Madras, which calls upon the court for decision on the garbled statements it has furnished, and withholds the series of documents which would have led to opposite results and conclusions.

Objection 6th.

For sanctioning the publication in the newspapers of Madras, which are generally circulated both to English and Foreign settlements, official statements, conveying equally to the enemies as to the friends of the British power, exaggerated descriptions of the disaffection, disobedience, sedition, and rebellion, of the army of their government.

For authorizing the circulation of letters to the Native troops, stimulating them to disclaim the authority of their officers, and by public orders proclaiming to the Native troops, and consequently to the Native powers, a state of weakness which it would be the object of a wise and prudent government to conceal.

The appeal to the Native troops will be admitted by the most strenuous advocate of Sir George Barlow, to be an experiment perilous in the extreme, by unfolding to that body their own power and importance, and by striking at the very root of all discipline, in teaching these troops to reason on the connections and relations of the authorities which are placed over them; and to look to other combinations and gradations of command, than those that are inculcated in all the elementary instructions of military discipline. If I be told that the measure was justified by the extremity of the case, I answer, first, that no extremity could justify so vague, so dangerous, and so loose a proceeding, as the dispersion of these manifestoes of insubordination; and secondly, that the necessity did not exist. This ill informed government appears to have believed that all the officers, or the greater portion of them, were combined in a plan of direct hostility for the actual subversion of the government; but the fact of the relinquishment of the exercise of military duty by the largest portion of the officers, on the alternative offered of temporary retirement, or the signature of the test, proves the belief to be completely unfounded, and that the extreme case did not exist.

Objection 7th.

For a general want of conciliation from the first appointment of Sir George Barlow to the date of the last advices, in all the circumstances connected with the subject of these observations; and in the whole character of the government, with the single exception of the publication of the general order of the 6th of February, which a few days earlier, would have calmed the whole agitation, but now only marked extreme incapacity by selecting for the attempt that precise period of time when an injudicious act of severity and injustice had failed to terrify, and had excited feelings which the most moderate knowledge of human nature would shew to be peculiarly unfavourable to this single and reluctant effort at conciliation.

The public career of sir George Barlow has proved him to be a laborious and useful instrument, but a deficient organ of government; he has shewn himself to be destitute of that knowledge of mankind which is the associate, or rather the parent of discretion, and without which the delegation of power is precarious and unsafe.

For all which grounds of objection to the measures of the government of Fort

St. George, I do hereby solemnly protest against the removal from council of Mr. William Petrie, for his opposition to these measures."

(Signed) J. BANNERMAN.

East India House,
23d April, 1810.

Dissent of sir Francis Baring, bart. and sir Hugh Inglis, bart.

The hon. the court of directors of the East India company.

Gentlemen,

On Friday the 6th an arrangement was proposed for the government of Madras, omitting the name of Mr. Petrie, but rejected by the treasurer's casting vote.

The same arrangement was again proposed on Tuesday the 10th, and carried in the affirmative, a director having declared in court, that subsequent to the 5th, he had been induced to alter his opinion; otherwise the numbers would have been equal, and the treasurer must have been again called in to decide the question by lot.

Under these circumstances, and for reasons we shall state hereafter, we protest against the decision.

The papers are so voluminous, so much partiality and acrimony is manifest on one side, whilst Mr. Petrie stands alone, absent, and not suspecting the length to which hostility has been carried against him, that we shall be excused in the opinion of every liberal mind, if we throw aside the minute microscopic objects which sir George Barlow and his friends have viewed in the character and conduct of Mr. Petrie; the more so, as those which sir George has brought forward have been fully refuted by Mr. Petrie; and if they had not been refuted, they do not furnish ground, even for censure, of a person holding so elevated a situation, still less for removal. There is one point, however, and it stands alone, namely, how far the conduct of Mr. Petrie on the subject of the mutiny, which has been branded with the epithets of a disloyal, factious opposition, can be impeached or defended? And again, how far the services and conduct of Mr. Petrie merit the punishment that has been inflicted on him?

Before we enter into such a discussion, it may be proper to state, what we conceive to be facts, relative to the merit and services of Mr. Petrie, and the opinion entertained by the court of directors on various occasions.

Mr. Petrie proceeded to India as a writer in 1765. He succeeded to a seat in council in 1787. He was appointed by the court as a member of council, and to succeed as provincial governor in 1790, but returned to Europe for his health in 1792. He was again appointed by the court in 1793, and to succeed as provisional governor in 1798. This appointment was repeated in 1802, when the court requested of him to accept ten thousand pagodas, in consequence of the high sense they entertained of his long and faithful services, always with the condition annexed of succeeding to the government, pro tempore, and which took place on lord William Bentinck leaving Madras in 1807; but which he relinquished on the arrival of sir George Barlow in December, 1807.

Finally, he was appointed to a seat in council, and to succeed sir George, in 1807. Such numerous unequivocal proofs of merit, during a period of 20 years, from 1778 to 1807 inclusive, are unprecedented in the annals of the company; and it is therefore an additional duty imposed on us to enquire into the cause for their having been so ill requited.

There can be no comparison between sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie for length of service, nor for acknowledged merit. The only instance of dissatisfaction that had been manifested towards Mr. Petrie, was, for not recording his dissent to the measure for enforcing the turban. Mr. Petrie defended himself against this censure, and the court admit, in their answer of the 2d August, 1809, that Mr. Petrie had stated a reason which has great weight, for not having recorded a written dissent against the measure relative to the turban. In the present case, the dissatisfaction attaches solely to his opinion, for in regard to his conduct we shall notice it hereafter; whereas the court have distinctly marked their displeasure towards sir George, for his conduct in the uniform decided support of measures which they have so strongly reprobated. These observations naturally lead us to state the grounds on which we protest; namely, that every principle that ought to shield an individual from persecution, has been violated:

1st. The constitution of the company, as established and confirmed by its charters.

2d. The orders of the court, manifested by their uniform, invariable opinions and instructions on numerous occasions.

3d. The supercession of an old meritorious servant, for the purpose of gratifying a junior servant, whose previous conduct had been censured by the court.

4th. And further, for removing a man who has held the high situation of governor without hearing his defence, and founded upon evidence, furnished in a clandestine manner by his avowed adversary.

Before the charter of 1784, no supreme controlling power existed in India; the want of it was severely felt under the administration of Mr. Hastings, who was compelled to have an avowed agent at home to represent and act for him, according to circumstances; an inconvenience, as well as an injury, experienced both abroad and at home. It often happened, that recourse was had to major Scott for information and for papers, which had not been received by the company. Such a

situation naturally excited dissatisfaction and clamour, more particularly in the House of Commons, when it was frequently a topic for declamation against the government of Mr. Hastings; from this difficulty the company were relieved, under the protection of Mr Pitt and lord Melville, by the charter of 1784, which established a supreme controlling power in India: but it never was in their contemplation, nor in that of any other person, that the power should be exercised by the governor in a despotic, arbitrary manner, nor that the council should thereby be reduced to cyphers; but that every subject should be discussed as usual, each member to enter his opinion on the minutes, and the power vested in the governor to be exercised solely when the votes were equal. This part of the charter was again confirmed in 1793. That Mr. Petrie was perfectly regular in making his sentiments known on this, or any other subject; nor could any detriment arise if he erred in judgment, so long as three remaining members were able to outvote him, exclusive of the additional security arising from the controlling power vested in the governor

The orders of the court requiring the council to record their opinions, and reprobating their silence in the strongest and most decisive terms, are numerous; but in no instance more pointed than when applied to the conduct of sir George Barlow, at the time he was in a similar situation at Bengal.

Under the circumstances we have described, with such numerous testimonies in favour of Mr. Petrie, and distinct disapprobation of the conduct of sir G. Barlow, the court thought proper in their wisdom and justice to appoint sir George to the government of Madras, thereby superseding Mr. Petrie.

On such an appointment we request the court to pause, and let each man ask himself, in what manner sir George ought to have conducted himself on his arrival at Madras? Whether it would not have been wise to have left behind him in Bengal a cold arbitrary disposition, and to have adopted the principles of a statesman and a good governor, by shewing some attention to those feelings which his own promotion must have excited, and by uniting the suaviter in modo, with the fortiter in re?

Sir George was a stranger, ignorant of the habits, manners, and opinions, of those whom he was appointed to govern; and at a moment when a system of reform and retrenchment was going on, which affected the interest of almost every individual in the service. If it is at all times one of the first duties, to cultivate and preserve harmony and cordiality, it was, in our opinion, the bounden duty of sir George to have done so on such an occasion. The system of reform was proceeding in a regular manner, even the army, although reluctant when they relinquish pecuniary advantages to which they had been accustomed, manifested no disposition indicating those fatal measures which afterwards appeared, and which never would have happened if the government had remained in the hands of Mr. Petrie.

This circumstance forms, in our opinion, so prominent a feature in the early stages of the mutiny, and as a criterion to judge of the comparative merits of sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie, that we sought with studious attention to discover instances of temper and conciliation on the part of the former; but we have sought in vain. When Mr. Petrie delivered over the government to sir George, it cannot be denied that he left him an army not surpassed in discipline, obedience, and submission, or in attachment to their country, by any troops in the British service, commanded by an officer whose cordial support might have been secured by attention, civility, and politeness.

The services, civil as well as military, furnish too many instances of a contrary disposition. It is true that he was aware of the propriety of making the attempt, and he explains very distinctly the ability and judgment which he manifested, and the success which followed those attempts. In his publication to the army after the unhappy expedient of the 26th July, he broadly states, that every measure he has adopted from his first order respecting general Macdowall, to the last above-mentioned, had not only failed in producing the effect intended, but had directly and immediately been the cause of the increased discontent of the army, their intemperate remonstances, and subsequent acts of violence. All this is true, and we must again request the court to pause, for sir George plainly insinuates that his orders were directly and immediately the cause of the increased discontents of the army, their intemperate remonstrances, and subsequent acts of violence.

Wherein consists the culpable or criminal conduct of Mr. Petrie?

It is, that he represented to sir George (but with great propriety in the manner of doing it) the injurious or fatal consequences that might arise from the measures he was pursuing; he united local experience, a knowledge of men, with temper, foresight, and judgment. In his situation as second member in council, and provisional successor to the government, he thought it his duty to offer his opinion on a subject that shook our empire in India to its centre; he complied with the act of parliament, he obeyed the orders of the court of directors, and in a quiet inoffensive manner, he explained to sir George Barlow those prospects which his prophetic spirit foresaw, and which subsequent events fully justified.

But alas! this constitutes his crime. If it shall be found, and we firmly believe it to be true, that had the advice of Mr. Petrie previous to the mutiny been followed, it would not have happened, the merit and laurels which sir George has acquired, by suppress-

ing a mutiny which he had so much contributed to excite, would vanish of course. We have heard of princes who have sought for war, to enable them to display their military talents; but it is no justification for sir George Barlow, that he has manifested resolution and firmness in suppressing a rebellion, if he neglected the means to prevent it before its explosion. Without derogating from the merit which sir George Barlow's friends may impute to him for his firmness, and disclaiming, as we sincerely do, any imputation on his integrity, or that he has acted otherwise than to the best of his judgment, we are distinctly of opinion, that the sword of revolt was sheathed when the governor-general announced sentiments of moderation, justice, and lenity; and not less than 30,000 men, who were then in opposition to government, surrendered at discretion, and threw themselves on the justice, liberality, and mercy of lord Minto: nor can we believe that a cold arbitrary word of command, although pronounced by the first member of the Madras government, would have produced the same effect. We very much fear, that the depriving general Macdowall of a seat in council may have contributed, in some degree, to the important events which followed; and we lament that his disappointment was not alleviated by the conciliatory disposition of the governor. We have not heard of any public appearance of dissatisfaction between the governor on his first arrival and the general, but the day following, their appearance together in public in perfect harmony; and two months before the arrest of colonel Munro, the associates and friends of the general met together, for the purpose of presenting him with a service of plate, as an acknowledgment of his private and social qualities; not a syllable being mentioned about his public conduct. This has been treated by sir George as a proof of that early confederacy or conspiracy to which he imputes a systematic factious opposition to his measures. Unfortunately for sir George, the list of names affords too easy a refutation; for it has been justly observed, that it contains the names of those who rebelled, of those who quelled the rebellion, and of those who had no concern in the profession of arms. If the plate had been voted after the highly culpable conduct of general Macdowall towards the end of January, it would then have worn a serious and different complexion. We cannot follow sir George through the numerous circumstances and steps which terminated finally in rebellion, further than to remark, that we can discover no trace of a conciliatory temper, no proof of foresight, judgment or management; the exercise of cold arbitrary coercion appears on every occasion. The civil servants, generally, are implicated with the subscribers to the plate; all are charged with dissatisfaction and insubordination, either by sir George or by his representative here; and it is sufficient to entertain an opinion different from himself, to be stigmatized as a factious opponent. In every look and every gesture he perceives treason and rebellion, excepting only the very few favourites who surround his person. Mr. Roebuck was the first victim, at the age of 60, and after 35 years service. General Macdowall, at the head of the army, pushed from one step to another, fell at last into error, which is unpardonable, if the loss of life, &c. may not be deemed an expiation. Mr. Petrie, the chief of your civil service, and who preceded sir George as governor, must be removed; men, measures, and the sound principles of government, must all be sacrificed.

It is a melancholy question, but we must ask, who was satisfied under such a government? is it now safe?—The civil servants are and must be disgusted. In the military service, the bond of union and confidence between the officers and the sepoys has been too roughly treated for such delicate machinery. We are afraid much jealousy subsists between the company's officers and those of the king, who assisted to quell the rebellion; whilst it should be remembered, that out of 1,300 officers and gentlemen, less than 200 signed the test. Surely such circumstances require temper and talents adapted to an extraordinary dangerous situation. We can readily conceive that lord Minto, surrounded by a mutinous army, who had just submitted, acted wisely in holding up and applauding Sir George Barlow for his firmness, and even his conduct; the slightest deviation might have made a dangerous impression on the army at that moment: and lord Minto's opinion, as well as conduct, must be considered as purely political, and as what, in his opinion, would produce the best possible effect on the mind of the army. But this doth not in reality impeach or prejudice the judgment of Mr. Petrie, whose doctrine even then amounts to no more than a desire to look far forward, and to adopt the earliest and best means for the purpose of restoring harmony to the service, promoting amongst the officers a liberal, manly, and grateful attachment to the colours under which they serve. Lord Minto writes at a most critical moment, when every one must have been impressed with the anxious wish to extinguish, totally and instantly, any recurrence to what had passed, and therefore makes an observation on the opinion and conduct of Mr. Petrie, but expressly disavowing any intention to reflect on the same. We repeat, that we readily conceive what may, and indeed ought to influence the mind of lord Minto on such an occasion; but we have too good an opinion of his understanding and knowledge of the world, to believe that he really expected to change the opinions entertained by above 1,100 officers, formed under personal privations

and sufferings, and by the mere words of a general order.

After all, what has been the opinions and conduct of Mr. Petrie? If they had been violent, tending to irritate and inflame the army, if he had promoted public meetings or associations, although government may have acted in direct opposition to his opinion, he would have been highly culpable. His conduct has been distinctly, decidedly the reverse; with complete local knowledge and experience, particularly of the characters of those with whom the government had to contend, he urged for moderate, temperate measures, for the purpose of averting and dispersing that storm which his penetration and foresight clearly foresaw must arise out of the arbitrary conduct and unwise proceedings of Sir George Barlow.

We must confess, that we think such an adviser on such an occasion, is precisely the person and line of conduct in the contemplation of parliament, when a governor and council was established. When firm resistance, and implicit obedience is the order of the day amidst reductions and reform, personally affecting the military; with three voices in council always concurring, and the governor's controlling power always in reserve; in what consists the criminality of one member suggesting temperate, moderate proceedings, as the best means for averting the storm? the more so, as we are decidedly of opinion, and in which many able, well-informed men concur with us, that if the suggestions of Mr. Petrie had been listened to in the early stages of the business, that the mutiny never would have happened.

If our opinion with regard to the intention of the legislature shall be disputed, we desire to know of what use are the council? for if Mr. Petrie is removed, who will then dare to oppose Sir George Barlow, or any favourite governor on any occasion? The court in their vehemence to exalt sir George Barlow, and to think whatever he pleases they should think, lose sight of the dangerous power which they thereby establish, and which will henceforward rest on the firmest basis; they forget the opinion of a great Roman historian, and which is likewise the true spirit of the British constitution, namely, "that power without controul " ought never to be trusted." But against such power we protest, and we do most solemnly protest.

On the 3d of April, 1805, you accuse Sir George Barlow (the second subject of the Indian empire) of having assisted in turning the government into " a simple despotism," and his crime was, a blind unqualified support of the measures of the governor - general. The late chairman, whose sentiments the court adopted at that time, has now changed his opinion, and in support of despotism he considers the mild, temperate, judicious remonstrances of Mr. Petrie, as factious opposition, if not worse. For the conduct which he censures in the governor-general and Barlow in Bengal, he approves and supports at Madras, for the purpose of removing Mr. Petrie, thereby establishing in effect the principle of " simple despotism."

So late as the 30th of June, 1809, you convey your sentiments of Sir George Barlow's conduct in interfering with the Nabob of Oude, in the following strong unequivocal terms:

" It is with sincere concern we feel ourselves compelled to ay, that your conduct in the matter of Mr. Prendergast's complaint against Almas has been a breach of our orders, is contrary to the system of policy pursued by the former Bengal government, is unwarranted by the reasons you have assigned for a departure from that policy; has a strong tendency to irritate and influence the minds of the natives against the European character and against our government; is liable, in our opinion, to the charge of partiality and injustice, and has our strongest disapprobation and severest censure."

With such a character, drawn by the pen of Sir George Barlow's most zealous advocate on the present occasion, we cannot conceal the disgust we feel for such gross, glaring partiality and injustice.

The means employed to influence the opinion of the court are not less extraordinary than the rest of the proceedings. The only official documents before us are the dispatches from lord Minto, which are ample on every point with the public proceedings, the orders of government, &c. Unfortunately for the enemies of Mr. Petrie, no trace can be found amongst those voluminous documents, which can be construed into a charge against him; for lord Minto expressly says, " it is not my " intention on the conduct of Mr. Petrie" To meet this difficulty, an anonymous pamphlet was published a very few days before the decision, (and written, as we are informed, by a confidential advocate for Sir George Barlow) wherein the civil servants are generally charged with a spirit of disaffection and insubordination, similar to that which is said to have characterised the proceedings of the Madras army, and labour to show that Sir George Barlow had to encounter, in both branches of the service, the same tendency to wilful and disloyal opposition.

This pamphlet was immediately answered, wherein it is asserted " these charges, however they may be believed by him who makes them, have no foundation in truth;" and the total silence of the very voluminous papers we have received, amounts to the strongest presumptive proof in support of that assertion, which we also firmly believe. Mr. Petrie like-

wise asserts on the spot, in answer to Sir George Barlow, many months after the dispute had commenced, and during the residence of lord Minto, that Sir George's facts were assumed, not proved, and that it is very remarkable, whilst every drop of ink that flows from Sir George's pen is tinged with jealousy and suspicion, that he cannot name a single person, either civil or military, with whom Mr. Petrie was connected in hatching those deep, dangerous, factious designs, which were visible only to himself; nor is Mr. Petrie's name mentioned in any one of the intercepted letters, which it undoubtedly would have been, had he been considered as friendly to the cause of the officers.

Much has been said about the address, and Sir George is very pointed in the attack on Mr. Petrie for not signing it; this attack has been repelled in a most satisfactory manner; but we conceive that the whole of the subject merits the most serious attention, and in our opinion, manifests distinctly the intention and disposition of Sir George Barlow. The address was sent to Mr. Petrie, simply for his signature; he wrote immediately to the governor in a liberal, confidential manner, stating his doubts about the propriety and probable success of the measure; but without a syllable that could be construed into a refusal. The answer from Sir George is most extraordinary; it is flippant, and far from the dignified language of the head of a great country, to the second person, and his immediate successor in the government, on a subject, and at a moment when every true friend to the British empire in India, must have trembled for its safety. It produced, however, the effect which was probably intended, for it put an end to any further communication between them.

Mr. Petrie observes, that as a consultation was held with the governor by those who brought forward the address, he ought to have assisted, or have been informed, as the second member of government; the more so, as his chief objection was a doubt whether the respectable part of the service would concur: for he was ignorant of this when the address was presented to him. There are names of that description to the address, but there are many very respectable persons who refused to sign; and after all the clamour Sir George endeavours to raise on the subject, Mr. Petrie, immediately after receiving the letter, offered to sign, if his signature was considered to be useful or of service; but of which no notice is taken. What can be said for a governor, who, in a moment the most critical and dangerous the company ever experienced in India, instead of performing what was his paramount duty, to endeavour to unite with him all the talents and influence to preserve the empire from destruction, endeavours to irritate and to drive the person next in consequence, and with more personal influence than himself, into open and hostile opposition?

It is long since the intelligence was received of the mutiny being suppressed, and that the court have been kept in expectation of some arrangement for a new commission being proposed to fill up the government of Madras. The chairs were aware, however, that not a syllable could be traced on the records to justify their favourite object by the removal of Mr. Petrie; but after waiting above three months they laid before the court the minutes of Sir George and Mr. Petrie, accompanied by a letter from Mr. Dundas, who transmitted the same. The court enquired if those minutes appeared on the company's records, but they are not to be found, nor amongst the communications to the secret committee; the company's charter expressly limiting the communication between India and Europe to those channels, with a view to prohibit any such being made to his Majesty's ministers, or to the board of controul. Mr. Grant, who perfectly understands the company's rights and privileges, did not hesitate to receive and to communicate those papers, to serve as a pretence for the removal of Mr. Petrie; and when the objection was made of the dangerous precedent he established, of acting upon papers communicated directly from India to the president of the board of controul, a circumstance which never happened during the long and able administration of lord Melville, he answered, that the papers were not received from India by Mr. Dundas, but communicated to him by a person on whom he could rely; and which, in our opinion, rendered that which was bad before infinitely worse.

We thus perceive the chairman of the company, the president of the board of controul, and the private instruments of Sir George Barlow, all active, by public and private means, to remove an absent, innocent, meritorious individual, who cannot plead his own cause. It is equally extraordinary that this measure should be founded on the minute of Sir George, when it has been so fully and completely refuted by Mr. Petrie; for if due consideration is given to dates, it will amount to strong presumptive proof that the reply was satisfactory, for it certainly was not answered.

Sir G. Barlow's minute is dated the 21st August; it was not seen by Mr. Petrie, till the 29th ditto:

Mr. Petrie's answer is dated the 8th September:

Sir G. Barlow, and every member of his council, signed a letter to the court, dated 10th September:

And lord Minto's letter is dated 12th October.

The interval between the first and the

last is very considerable, and yet his lordship distinctly states, after he had had sufficient time to enquire, to examine and to reflect, "It is not my intention to reflect on the conduct of Mr. Petrie;" and he passes over, in a dignified silence, those irrelevant charges which Sir George brings forward to impeach the conduct of Mr. Petrie; but which have been so ably answered a d refuted by him.

His Majesty's ships, several country ships, and a fleet of the company's own ships, have been dispatched, and are arrived since the date of those minutes; and neither the minutes, nor any trace of them, appear on the company's records; nor is any notice taken of there having been a difference of opinion amongst the members of the board. Mr. Dundas acknowledges that it was in the contemplation of the chairs to remove Mr. Petrie so early as January last; no reason has been given for the delay, but it may be imputed to the expectation that lord Minto's promised communication would have furnished materials for the purpose; instead of which, after an interval of fifty-two days, with every means of enquiry on the spot, his lordship states distinctly, that "it is not my intention to reflect on the conduct of Mr. Petrie." Under such circumstances, every candid mind will admit that those minutes so authenticated, and transmitted to a private agent, were not meant for any laudable purpose. It is even fair for us to suppose, that Sir George Barlow conceived he had interest at home to effect the removal of Mr. Petrie; but if he should be mistaken, then these minutes, so authenticated, were to be produced, and at a time when Mr. Petrie could not know of the attack that was to be made against his character and fortune: it would have been too barefaced to have withheld Mr. Petrie's reply, and happily for him, no man can read his able defence against the acrimonious attack of Sir George Barlow, without being convinced of the futility and weakness of the charges. We shall therefore conclude, and as two of your senior directors, we again assert, that we never knew an instance wherein so much partiality and injustice has been manifested as on the present occasion.

We are, gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
(Signed) FRAN. BARING.
HUGH INGLIS.

East India House,
24th April, 1810.

Dissent of the honourable William Fullarton Elphinstone.

Honourable Sirs,

It has been my misfortune to entertain opinions very different from the majority of the court of directors on most of the questions brought under their consideration, respecting the unhappy events that have taken place at the settlement of Madras; but on none have I so decidedly differed from them, as upon the resolution of the 10th April, dismissing Mr. Petrie from a seat in council. It is much to be lamented that the minutes and consultations of the government of Madras have been withheld from the knowledge of the court; a circumstance that has seldom or ever occurred before, and is deserving of the severest censure: it is true, there has been several dispatches from Madras, but they contain only the governors letters to the court, or to the chairman, although we have reason to believe much information has been privately communicated through Sir George Barlow's agent. I presume Sir George thought, and wisely thought, that was a safer method for him to pursue, than to trust the court with the minutes and consultations of council, which is the only true and constitutional information that ought to come to the government at home, and on which they ought to form their decisions: all other being only exparte evidence, which never should be implicitly believed or acted on. What confirms this belief was, the production of two minutes by the chairman, on which he grounded his motion for the dismissal of Mr. Petrie, and by several other circumstances mentioned by him in the course of the discussion.

There could be no doubt of the authenticity of these minutes, as they were countersigned by the secretary of the Madras government; the only cause for speculation was, why they should have been sent home privately, and not to the court of directors; a measure contrary to the repeated and most positive orders of the company. If done by the secretary without orders, he is unworthy of his situation, and ought to be removed from it. If by orders of the Madras government, the court will judge what notice they ought to take of it. The first minute was a very violent and intemperate attack on Mr. Petrie by sir George Barlow, in which he deals about abusive language without measure, and attacks respectable characters without either proof or probability to support his assertions. The other was Mr. Petrie's answer, which, in moderate and dignified language, answers and refutes sir George's allegations; yet, wonderful to say, these minutes were the ground work on which the chairman rested his motion: and what was still more surprizing, that motion was carried by a small majority on the 10th, although it had been negatived a few days before. The reasons assigned for the dismissal of Mr. Petrie, were, that sir George and him could not serve in the same council, after having differed so materially on the measures most proper to have been pursued during the late alarming and unfortunate occurrences at Madras.

That they might have differed in their opinions, yet no blame attach to either, I think cannot be doubted. Sir George has pursued his own plan, and has succeeded; but it does not follow that Mr Petrie's might not have been the better and safer, had it been followed. Reducing the officers to obedience and submission was not the only object to be attended to—a wise government would have looked much further, for I am afraid, in reducing the officers to put on the semblance of submission, he has ruined and disorganized as fine an army as ever existed, besides risking many other misfortunes, which may yet overtake us when we are least prepared to resist them: these misfortunes might have been avoided had Mr. Petrie's plan been followed, and the submission of the officers equally ensured. He wished to effect by reason and conciliation, what sir George has effected by coercion; but in doing so, he has shewn the Native troops our weakness, and their own strength—he has alienated their affection and attachment from their European officers; and has awakened a spirit of ambition and resistance amongst the Native officers, by employing them to gain over the Sepoys, and placing the European officers in a disgraced and degraded situation before them; he has drawn aside the veil, and disclosed to every Indian power our weakness. The European officers were the link which attached the Native army to the British government: he has shewn them how easily it may be broken, and the sure means of doing it. At the same time I will not impute blame to Sir George Barlow for acting to the best of his judgment and ability in the manner he did; but I confess, had I been placed in the situation of these gentlemen, I should have preferred Mr. Petrie's as the wisest and the safest plan; it shewed he understood well the situation and connection of our government with India, and that he was not to be misled by momentary gusts of passion or prejudice from the real interests of his country. I have no hesitation in declaring my opinion, that the court, by their vote, removed from council the only man in it who had any real talents or knowledge of government. I must likewise contend, that differing in opinion on a great subject where the wisest might have differed, is no cause why these gentlemen should not act together; unless you suspect an obstinacy or vindictiveness to exist in either of their breasts, which, I am sure, Mr. Petrie's conduct through life has shewn no trace of. By dismissing Mr. Petrie, you change the whole system of Indian government from a governor and council to a governor only; for no gentleman in council will differ in opinion from the governor, and record his difference of opinion, if the loss of his situation is to be the consequence: this was so fully and strongly stated by one of the most able and respectable members of the court, that the chairmen immediately changed their ground, declaring it was not for differing in opinion, and dissenting from Sir George Barlow, but for not signing an address to Sir George. A careful examination into this address, its rise and progress, will shew what a miserable pretence this was for the dismissal of an old, faithful, and honourable servant; and will likewise prove, that the same prejudices and partialities that made Sir George Barlow governor of Madras (which neither his talents or services gave him a title to) still continue in full force. The address was prepared under Sir George Barlow's own inspection, as appears by his minute; and the principal and indeed only object of it was to draw forth approbation of his measures, which from their violence were generally, indeed I may say, universally disapproved of, with the exception of a very few immediately about himself. It was carried about for signature from house to house by colonel Leith, a man almost as much detested by the whole settlement as Sir George was: he flattered and threatened as he judged most likely to prevail—to some he held forth promises of the governor's favour; others he threatened with his highest displeasure. Yet after all these unbecoming endeavours, he could only obtain about fifty-five names to the address, the greatest part of whom were officers, king's and company's, who held staff and other appointments, and the civilians holding offices immediately under the governor; but very few indeed of the respectable inhabitants would countenance it.

The address was sent Mr. Petrie, who being ignorant of Sir George Barlow's having any knowledge of it, immediately sent it to him, with a very civil letter, advising him to suppress it, as from time and circumstances it would have no good effect, but might have bad;—that as the officers had shewn unequivocal signs of their return to a sense of their duty, and a desire to submit their claims to the governor-general, who might be soon expected, it was better to leave them to reflect on their misconduct, than to agitate them with any new questions;—that the opinions of the inhabitants could have no effect on the officers, but only afford them a new subject for them to discuss at the presidency, which would be communicated to the officers. The governor returned a very laconic answer with the address; upon which Mr. Petrie wrote to the gentleman who first sent him the address: that although he did not think it could do any good, if they thought it would, he would sign it; but as it had now totally failed, he got no answer; and the address was no more thought of by Mr. Petrie, until the governor's minute brought it again to light as a serious charge against him. It may be fairly asked, why was this address, if esteemed of such consequence, concealed from Mr. Petrie until it was carrying about for signatures? If any good consequence could have been expected from an address from the inhabitants, a

meeting of them ought to have been called, and the address voted publicly, which might have given it weight; but the smuggled, secret manner in which it was attempted, could only produce contempt and disgrace. Mr. Petrie is likewise charged as a high crime with not having supported sir George in the measures he pursued against the civil servants and merchants, in the case of the nabob's bonds. That those measures were arbitrary, oppressive, and contrary to the interests of the company, there can be no doubt; therefore Mr. Petrie did but his duty in opposing them. After having given those minutes, and every document and argument brought forward in support of the motion, the most attentive and careful consideration I am capable of, I do protest against the dismissing Mr. Petrie from a seat in council, for the following reasons:

First—Because the court will virtually alter the system of Indian government, as established by law, from a governor and council, to a governor only; because it is impossible to expect that any gentleman in council will, from this time forward, venture to record a difference of opinion from the governors, when a dismissal from his situation will be the consequence.

Secondly—Because the court dismissed and disgraced an old and faithful servant of the company, upon charges brought against him by the governor, whilst the means of his justification were denied him, by the minutes and consultations of the government being intentionally withheld from the knowledge of the court.

Thirdly—Because, from a careful consideration of all the papers and documents that have been sent home by sir George Barlow, or by his direction, which have been laid before the court, I must impute to the violent and arbitrary measures of the government all the dissatisfaction and unfortunate events that have taken place at Madras.

Fourthly—Because I am convinced, that if the wise and conciliatory measures which Mr. Petrie proposed had been adopted, there would have been no mutiny of the officers; and that even after the government order of the first of May, when they began to hold their seditious meetings and consultations, had his advice been attended to, the officers would not have proceeded to the unjustifiable lengths they did.

Fifthly—Because Mr. Petrie appears to me to be the only member of the late council at Madras who had any knowledge of or talent for government; and it is very much to be apprehended, that whilst the present government exists, the interests of the company will be exposed to great risks, and that peace and security will not be restored to that distracted settlement.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) W. F. Elphinstone.

Upper Harley-street, April 24th, 1810.

Dissent of John Hudleston, Esq.

To the honourable the court of directors of the East India company.

Gentlemen,

I dissent from the resolution of the court of the 10th instant, for the arrangement of the Madras commission of government, by which Mr. Petrie was removed from his station of member of that government:

Because, on hearing the rumours which were some time since generally afloat that such a measure was in contemplation, I anxiously looked for the arrival of the consultations or recorded minutes of the proceedings of the Madras government, that I might know of what Mr. Petrie was accused, by what conduct he had merited degradation, what grounds could be advanced to afford a colour for so harsh a procedure, or that could justify the treating him with such indignity; determining however, that if on the arrival of the consultations, it should appear that Mr. Petrie had in any way obstructed any of the measures pursued by the Madras government in the suppression of the late unhappy revolt, or had abetted the officers in any of their unfounded pretensions, and especially in their attempt to intimidate the government by dictating conditions or concessions, as the price of their continued obedience, I would in either of those cases think Mr. Petrie unworthy of continuing a member of the council, and most readily concur in his removal.

Because, under this impression I lamented, as well as disapproved, the withholding the consultations by the Madras government, notwithstanding that several opportunities had offered for transmitting them; aware that in the mean time private representations might be made to high authorities in this country in the absence of those records, from which alone a just and impartial judgment could be formed.

Because at length, to my infinite surprize, by an inversion of the legally established and constitutional order of things, the court of directors received from the right honourable the president of the board of commissioners for the affairs of India, through the hands of the late chairman, two most important documents, forming part of the consultations or records of the company's government of Madras, duly authenticated by the acting secretary to that government, consisting of two minutes, the one by sir George Barlow, containing various severe and acrimonious animadversions on the conduct of Mr. Petrie; and the other by Mr. Petrie, containing his answer and defence.

Because I find on perusing the said document, that Mr. Petrie is not charged, even by sir George Barlow himself, with any act or conduct of the nature above described, but that his offence has, according to sir George Barlow's own statement, principally consisted in his objecting, and in obe-

dience to the express orders of the court of directors, recording his objections to some of those violent measures of the Madras government, of which I disapprove equally with Mr. Petrie; and in his recommending moderate and healing measures, before matters had gone too far for any remedy but violence and coercion; also in his objecting to, or, to use sir George Barlow's own words, "withholding the support of his opinion" from what he (sir George Barlow) terms "the constitutional interposition," but what I cannot but consider to have been an improper and unprecedented interference in the proceedings of his majesty's court of Oyer and Terminer.

Because the specific acts to which Mr. Petrie appears to have recorded his dissent, were the removal of Mr. Roebück from his offices at the presidency, (which he had filled with credit during a long course of years) and the sending him to Vizagapatam, a distance of 500 miles (where he soon sunk under his misfortunes) without any investigation, or the communication of any charge or accusation against him; and the suspension from the service of major Boles, also without a trial or a hearing, and for an act, for which, as I think is shewn in another lately recorded dissent, he (major Boles) was not responsible.

Because, admitting even that Mr. Petrie was wrong or injudicious in disapproving of those acts, or of the government's interfering and making itself a party in the proceedings of the criminal court, still, if his disapprobation was sincere and uninfluenced by corrupt or factious motives in recording it, he did only his duty, as pointed out to him by the court; but so far from being wrong in his disapprobation of these acts, Mr. Petrie, in objecting to them, objected to what has been recently shewn to have been a violation of the positive orders of the court; and if there had been no such orders, I should have been ready to ask, if in this country it could be necessary to justify or apologize for the having objected to the condemning and punishing men unheard?

Because, in respect to the other procedure of the Madras government above alluded to, their having ordered the company's law officers to defend the persons charged with forging the nabob's bonds, and who were subsequently convicted of that forgery by a British jury, and a person charged with perjury in the evidence which he gave in their favour on that trial, and who was also convicted by another British jury selected from among the most respectable characters in the settlement: if any member of the court can concur with sir George Barlow in calling it a "constitutional interposition," I would request of him to point out the part of our constitutional system which recognizes it, or, even by implication, sanctions or permits it.

Because Mr. Petrie's conduct in these instances, instead of meriting degradation and disgrace, entitled him in my opinion to praise and approbation, and I look forward with deep regret to the consequences that must result to the public interests, as well as to himself, from the requital he is about to experience; for I would submit it to the court, whether we can expect that in future, members of our governments abroad will ever hazard the recording their disapprobation of, or dissent from the measures of any governor, however fatal or destructive the tendency of such measures. We tell them it is their bounden duty, when they differ from the majority, to record their opinions, with the reasons on which they are grounded. We enjoin them to do so, nay we have recently censured Mr. Petrie in particular, for not having done it on some important occasions; and we now degrade him for having done that which we before censured him for having neglected to do.

Because it was with astonishment, that in the discussion of the subject I heard it said, that it was not for differing in opinion with sir George Barlow, or for recording his dissents, that the measure of removing Mr. Petrie was proposed, it could not but be known in the settlement, the records would announce it to the servants of the company, that Mr. Petrie had so differed, and recorded his dissents; nay, sir George Barlow himself advances it as a charge against Mr. Petrie, that he "withheld the support of his opinion." His minute so charging him, authenticated by the secretary, finds its way to England, with Mr. Petrie's answer, in which, with a temperance of language that distinguishes every line in it, and forms a striking contrast with the acrimonious style of his opponent, he pleads thus in his defence: "When I find that I could not conscientiously concur in the sentence of the president in council, it was my duty, as it has been repeatedly explained and enforced by the honourable court of directors, to record my dissent." In another part of his answer, indeed, he pleads with less humility (in allusion to the recent suspensions and removals of officers without a trial or a hearing) that he had been taught "to consider every man as innocent, until he is proved to be guilty." Both the minutes are brought forward precisely at the moment when the Madras commission of government is to be arranged, and Mr. Petrie, the second member of the council, and whom sir George Barlow had found in the quiet undisturbed possession of the office of governor, is excluded from the commission, not indeed until after the question had once been determined in his favour. Under these circumstances will it be believed, either in India or in this country, that Mr. Petrie's degradation is not in consequence of his having differed in opinion with sir George Barlow, and disap-

proved and recorded his disapprobation of some of his measures?

Because, if Mr. Petrie has committed any other offences that call for so severe a punishment, they ought in my opinion, to have been distinctly specified: we are aware indeed, that it was stated in the debate on the subject, that "Mr. Petrie would have given up every thing;", but on what act or proceeding on his part such a statement relied, we are entirely ignorant; and Mr. Petrie, as if he had anticipated such a representation of his conduct, has virtually, and I think satisfactorily answered it in his minute: it was urged also, that the not removing Mr. Petrie would imply "a bending to the army." After all the declarations so full of approbation of the conduct of the government, and of reprobation of that of the officers, which had been dispatched to India, and doubtless published in general orders, and with sir George Barlow continued in the office of governor, and Mr. Oakes included in the commission, I am unable to conceive how the not removing of Mr. Petrie could imply a bending, or any concession whatever to the army; although if it is known that he was the only member of the council who objected to any of the violent measures that were pursued, it is easy to imagine that his exclusion must produce an opposite effect.

Because it was also endeavoured to be impressed (and ultimately I must think but with too much success) that the removal of Mr. Petrie from the council had nothing to do with the merits of sir George Barlow's conduct, which were still open to enquiry, but if it were possible to admit that position, it would follow; that the court may hereafter condemn those very measures, and recal sir George Barlow for that very conduct which they have condemned, and degraded Mr. Petrie for having opposed; and may feel, that the least reparation that could be made to Mr. Petrie, would be the restoring him to his seat in the council, but a reparation from which he would in all probability be precluded, by having embarked for England, which, if he possesses sufficient to place him above actual indigence, there can be no doubt he will do as soon as possible, after receiving the intelligence of his removal. It seems to me then perfectly obvious, that the enquiry into sir George Barlow's conduct (supposing it still open to one) should have preceded any decision on the conduct of Mr. Petrie.

Because, if Mr. Petrie's removal from his seat in the council is not in consequence of his having objected to, and recorded dissents from some of the measures of sir George Barlow, it must follow, that his only offence consisted in his withholding his signature from an address to sir George Barlow in council, to which it had been proposed to him to affix it. As it was known that the address in question was not the spontaneous act of the community, or resolved on at any general meeting convened for the purpose, it can hardly be considered as matter of blame on Mr. Petrie, if he was ignorant that sir George Barlow attached to it any value; if however, Mr. Petrie, apprized that his signature was solicited with the concurrence or knowledge of sir George Barlow, had refused to affix it, I might have thought such refusal injudicious, but should still have contended that it was entirely optional on his part to affix, or to withhold it, without the infringement of any duty or principle; and with reference to his rank and station, he might naturally have felt some jealousy in consequence of not having been previously consulted: but the fact proves to have been, that Mr. Petrie, after stating in a private note to sir George Barlow his impression on the subject, did offer to sign the address.

Because, in the minute sir George Barlow, severe as it is, and comprising as we may fairly presume it does, all that he could bring forward against Mr. Petrie, there is nothing laid to Mr. Petrie's charge that is not fully and satisfactorily refuted in his calm and dispassionate answer, which evinces a spirit corresponding with the temperate councils which he gave, and which, could they have prevailed at the commencement of the agitations, would have prevented the dreadful excesses that followed. I think Mr. Petrie's conduct and intentions merited a different return from that which awaits them; at the same time I do not deny to sir George Barlow an equal rectitude of intention, and in his measures for the suppression of the revolt, I readily acknowledge a firmness suited to the crisis: but I cannot look back to his preceding steps without preceiving that he in a great degree made for himself the occasion for its exertion, by their unqualified violence, in which he appears to me to have lost sight both of British justice and of British feeling.

On all these grounds, and above all, because the measure itself obviously partakes of the harshness and violence which have already been productive of such deplorable effects, and tends to indentify the court of directors with a system under which it is in my opinion impossible that the company's affairs in India can prosper, I feel myself impelled, by the strongest sense of public duty, to record my solemn protest against the removal of Mr. Petrie from his station in the Madras council.

(Signed) J. HUDDLESTON.

London, April 24, 1810.

Dissent of James Pattison, Esq.

I dissent from the resolution of the court of the 9th instant, which dismisses Mr. Petrie from the council of Fort St. George, on the ground of its being both impolitic and unjust, and for the following reasons:

Because the minutes of sir George Barlow and of Mr. Petrie, transmitted by the president of the board of controul, as proofs of the necessity of such a change in the Madras government, under an avowal that they came accidentally into his hands, and which (no other copy of them having been received at the India House, though authenticated by the signature of the secretary, would, in better times, have been probably rejected by the court as inadmissible) furnish ample testimony of the character of the two individuals; the one being a violent and malignant invective, the other a calm, moderate, and dignified refutation.

Because it is the bounden and enjoined duty of a counsellor to deliver his opinions with freedom, and to record them when over-ruled, if he should think the subject of sufficient importance. On a former lamentable occasion Mr. Petrie incurred the displeasure of the court, for having omitted to record his opinion. By the present resolution of the court, he will be punished for having urged and maintained his sentiments in opposition to those of sir George Barlow!! and future counsellors will be strangely puzzled how to act, if punishment is thus made equally to attend upon passive and firm resistance.

Because, if punishment thus awaits freedom of opinion, no counsellor will henceforward hazard opposition to the will of a governor, and the establishment of a council will become worse than useless, by holding out delusive hopes of collective wisdom; and in the new charter it will be more consistent, and less expensive, to obtain the sanction of the legislature to the appointment of arbitrary governors, than to continue the present system of nominal counsellors, whose safety can only be found in passiveness.

Because the object of the resolution is clearly two-fold; and while it lightens Mr. Petrie in the balance, the scale of sir George Barlow's merits is in proportion the weightier. This self - evident proposition, though masked by the late honourable chairman (Mr. Grant) and almost, if not wholly denied (by which skilful manœuvre the majority was obtained which decided the fate of Mr. Petrie) makes me doubly anxious to record my dissent; as I think the direct converse was the course the court should have taken; conscientiously believing that on every point where sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie have been at issue, the view of the former (arising probably from the unbending nature of his character) has been invariably wrong, and that Mr. Petrie, on the other hand, as invariably right. I shall touch slightly on the prominent points which have established this opinion.

1st. The conduct of the government in the case of Mr. Sherson and Mr. Smith, while the alleged misconduct of the former was under the investigation of a committee, proceeding upon allegations, and examination of native accounts not understood by them, a committee composed of three persons, one in known opposition to Mr. Sherson; one Mr. Sherson's deputy, who must have shared his faults, and who looked to succeed, and did really succeed to his office; and the third a gentleman who could not make up his mind to sign the report against Mr. Sherson: while this extraordinary investigation is proceeding by order of government, Mr. Smith the auditor general is ordered to audit Mr. Sherson's accounts of grain. He proceeds therein, he is prepared to deliver it; when he is directed to hold communication with the criminating committee— he demurs, conceiving such communication foreign from his duties; he is enjoined obedience; he obeys, he attends; he finds his views and those of the committee in absolute dissonance. He remonstrates respectfully to government; he is ordered to deliver in his audit; he does so, with respectful remarks on the deficiencies charged against Mr. Sherson, and his reason for thinking his vouchers correct. What is the result? Mr. Smith is dismissed from his situation for gross partiallity !!! but after some frittering of words upon his intentions, &c. he is appointed to be— what?—a Judge !!! Is any proceeding so monstrous in absurdity to be found in any history? Derision would be its proper treatment if the fortune and character of a tried and able servant were not at stake; as it is, who can hesitate to approve of Mr. Petrie's judgment, who opposed this measure, or to censure in the bitterest terms the folly, not to say the wickedness, of the government which adopted it.

2dly. The conduct of the government in the trials of Reddy and Anunda Row, and Mr. Battley.

Without entering into the detail of these transactions, I must give the tribute of praise to Mr. Petrie, who opposed the interference of government in a cause no wise affecting the interests of the company; it being a squabble among individuals for a just allotment of proportions of a specific sum, payable by the company to the approved creditors of the nabob. The appointment of the advocate general (himself interested in the suspected bond) to defend the criminals; the dispatch of a civil servant into Tanjore to collect evidence for Mr. Battley; and above all, the shameful vindictiveness displayed by the go-

vernment against the prosecutors, and even against some of the jury after their decision, are all a mass of disgrace indelible from the records against the Madras government.

3dly. The difference betwen the conduct of government, or rather of Mr. Petrie, when governor, and that of his successor, sir George Barlow, towards general Mc Dowall and the army: during the former, though the tent contract had been abolished under the previous government of lord W. Bentinck, of which Mr. Petrie was a member, the army was patient; although general Mc Dowall was not appointed to the council, he was quiet, and to all appearance resigned. On the accession of sir George Barlow to the government, colonel Munro's memorial, which was of a private and confidential nature, and which had slept while its object had been secured, is brought out most unnecessarily, and is delivered by sir George Barlow to the adjutant-general !!! Hence sprung the fatal feuds between colonel Munro and the officers, delaring themselves aspersed by this paper. General Mc Dowall, instead of conciliatory conduct on the part of the new government, meets with slights; and troops are ordered to march without his knowledge !!! who can avoid tracing the evils which ensued to their real source, in sir George Barlow's harsh and unconciliatory character.

4thly. When the officers who felt aggrieved by the expression of colonel Munro's memorial, delivered in one of a most respectful nature, addressed to the Court of Directors, pledging themselves to a patient, and submissive expectation of the court's answer, this document, which, if forwarded, would have ensured tranquillity, was refused transmission. !!! Was this wisdom in the Madras government? Mr. Petrie would have indulged them in their request. This too is doubtless one of his offences; but it would probably have spared India the convulsion she has suffered, and the deep-rooted mischief which remains behind.

5thly. Had Mr. Petrie's advice been followed, the ill-judged suspension of colonel Capper and major Boles would not have brought into agitation the dangerous question, where obedience is to cease in military matters, and discussion of the legality of the orders of superior officers is to begin. This suspension was considered a great aggravation by the officers; and was a most dangerous rallying point, on account of its palpable injustice. Policy alone would have dictated to a wise government to avoid so critical a question. Can the Madras government be sufficiently blamed for forcing it into discussion !!!

6thly. I shall touch upon the general orders of the 1st May, highly disapproved by Mr. Petrie, but promulgated by government, contrary to the principles of justice, as charging and condemning (synonymous words with the Madras government) the officers therein named as conspirators to subvert the government; and this upon ex parte evidence, without notice to the accused of the charge, or a hearing of their defence !!! contrary to sound policy, as producing great additional irritation without the possibility of adequate advantage. And the result fatally proved the wisdom of Mr. Petrie's advice, as the suspension of these officers set fire to the match already prepared by the aggravations enumerated.

I shall close this my solemn dissent from the dismission of Mr. Petrie, by observing, that this act will be felt at Madras, as a general approbation of all sir George Barlow's measures; and the impolicy of the resolution keeps pace with its injustice. When a whole settlement, civil and military, holds a governor in execration, and he is thus made to triumph over the only member of the council who had the firmness to oppose his harsh and tyrannical conduct, it is to be dreaded that the measure itself will be execrated; and that the character of the court may suffer from its implicit and indiscriminate sanction, thus declared, of the whole of sir George Barlow's conduct. I must also be permitted to remark, that the boasted firmness of sir George Barlow, after the rebellion had burst forth, deserves approbation only, in as much as no other course was left with probable or even possible views of success; but it is too much to expect that fortitude, under a crisis created by himself, should be crowned with praise. It is at best but negative merit; and he who has risked the fortunes of his country on the hazard of a die, is not fit again to be trusted.

It is moreover evident, that all his firmness could not have saved him, and with him the settlement of Madras, had not lord Minto's approach led to a hope in the army, that the stern and haughty character of sir George Barlow would be obliged to bow down before the known clemency and moderation of the governor general. Sir George Barlow risked the fate of India. It is still a problem what course will best heal the rankling wounds of the army. I fear from the late decision of the court against the motion to restore the suspended officers to the service, that a conciliatory spirit is not to be looked for in the court. I hope I may be mistaken.

(Signed) James Pattison.

London,
24th April, 1810.

To the Honourable the Court of Directors.

Gentlemen,

In the dissents of several members of the court to the measure of removing Mr.

Petrie from the council of Fort St. George, there are representations given respecting the introduction of that measure, the conduct of it, and several circumstances connected with it, which are essentially defective and erroneous; and as those representations are pointed particularly to us, who then had the honour to fill the chairs, we find it necessary to give a full and accurate explanation of the transaction in question.

Of the unparalleled danger to which our Indian empire has been exposed by the convulsions at Madras, we need not here speak. The court in general, under a deep conviction of that danger, of the necessity of utterly discountenancing insubordination, and upholding the cause of legal government, had written the dispatches of the 15th and 29th September, 1809, and 9th February, 1810, to Fort St. George. It was a fact of perfect notoriety that Mr. Petrie had not concurred in the measures pursued by the Madras government, which the government general had cordially sanctioned; and the detriment, to the public interest of a discordant administration at Madras at such an awful crisis, was very obvious. A deep responsibility lay upon the authorities at home to continue an unequivocal support to the civil power in India, and to adopt such measures as might be proper to manifest that they would admit of no compromise on that head.

As early as the latter end of January last, the president of the board of commissioners did, of his own motion, and, as we have every reason to believe, under a strong conviction of the sentiments we have just expressed, address an official letter to us, to be laid before the court, setting forth the disadvantages which must result to the public interests in the critical state of affairs at Madras, from divided counsels in the administration there: hence the utter inexpediency of continuing together men who so much disagreed; and, as the court had approved of the system of policy pursued with respect to the insubordinate officers of the army by Sir G. Barlow and the majority of the council, the consequent propriety of making the change that became necessary by the removal of Mr. Petrie. The president intimated further his sense of the importance of this measure to be such, that if the court should see fit to decline the adoption of it, he would feel it his duty to advise his majesty to recal Mr. Petrie. To the best of our recollection the two minutes of Sir George Barlow and Mr. Petrie, since laid before the court, were in Mr. Dundas's possession at that time.

Though much impressed with the same views of the necessity of manifesting an unambiguous and entire support of the Madras government, and of the unfortunate and improper line of conduct held by Mr. Petrie, yet as the Madras consultations were not arrived, we were quite unwilling even to agitate the question moved in Mr. Dundas's letter; and upon our earnest request, he was induced to agree that we should delay the presentation of that letter to the court.

We wish it to be particularly noticed here, that, believing Mr. Dundas to think it incumbent on him to advise the removal of Mr. Petrie by his majesty's warrant, if the court should not deem it expedient to make a change themselves, our anxiety to prevent recourse to a power so offensive to the company, under circumstances which might reconcile the public to the exercise of it, added to the disposition which a sense of duty created in our minds, to bring the conduct of Mr. Petrie under the consideration of the court.

Nevertheless, the Madras consultations did not arrive; for two months afterwards nothing was done, and we expected, and indeed wished, to see the termination of our office for the year before the question concerning Mr. Petrie should be agitated.

But circumstances occurred which forced that question forward, contrary to our intention, and left us, according to our sense of duty, no option but to follow that course for which we have been since arraigned by the very persons who imposed the necessity upon us

Sir Samuel Auchmuty, who had been recently appointed commander in chief and second in council at Madras, was about to sail to India towards the end of March. As the council was before full, it became necessary, in consequence of the general's appointment, to displace one of the three counsellors of that government.

This brought immediately into view an enquiry concerning the person that should be removed. In the state in which the case of Mr. Petrie stood, we were unwilling, on the grounds already mentioned, to propose at that time his removal; and, on the other hand, we could not, consistent with our own sense of duty, propose a new commission of government (as the change in it required) in which he should be formally re-appointed second member, because that might seem to the whole world an acquiescence, without any inquiry, in the line of conduct he had held during the late convulsions. We therefore thought to elude the difficulty by delaying the commission of government, and, in the mean time, simply notifying to Madras the appointment of Sir Samuel Auchmuty as commander in chief and second in council. In the case of similar appointments it had before happened, that, upon receiving advice thereof in India, the junior member of council, that is, the last appointed, had been required

to withdraw: we reckoned that the same course would, in consequence of the proposed notification, be followed by the Madras government in the instance before us, and that Mr. Cassamaijor, the junior member, would be displaced to make room for general Auchmuty.

We meant this certainly only as an arrangement for the present, until, by the disposal of the question concerning Mr. Petrie, a new and permanent commission of government should be settled. But the friends of Mr. Petrie in the court would not leave the matter in this state. They said they could not trust the government of Madras with the fate of Mr. Petrie, and that if it was left to them, he, and not Mr. Casamaijor, would be removed. There was in our opinion no good ground for apprehending that government would venture upon any unusual step, because they would see that the court's own intention would have effect by the new commission which was to follow, and Sir George Barlow, for any thing we know, could not reckon that the removal would, by that commission fall on Mr. Petrie. Some of the members of the court, however, gave notice that they would move an amendment to the proposed paragraph to Madras, to the effect of declaring, that Mr. Casamaijor should give place to general Auchmuty. This happened about the end of March, within ten or twelve days of the annual change in the Direction, which was to remove us from our respective seats in the chairs, and some of the friends of Mr. Petrie from the direction by rotation, of which last circumstance they could not fail to be aware.

Finding that the question was thus to be forced forward within the short remainder of our official time, and in a way in which Mr. Petrie's conduct could not be duly considered, and yet that the intended amendment, if it succeeded, might be thought virtually to sanction that conduct, we saw the necessity of calling the attention of the court to the subject ourselves, and, in the only manner left us, that which the president had above two months before proposed. And as he had suspended his measure at our request, we then felt ourselves bound to inform him of the circumstances which obliged us to accede at length to his proposition, of which necessity he was indeed otherwise aware, for Sir Samuel Auchmuty, whose presence was so necessary in India, and whose ship was under sailing orders, had stated that he would not depart until the possibility of any demur to his entrance into a seat in council immediately on his arrival at Madras should be obviated by a specific declaration of the member who was to give way to him. Under this and other new circumstances, Mr. Dundas addressed another letter to us, dated 2d April, which was read in court on the 3d of that month, and of which we annex a copy to this paper. Upon laying that letter before the court, we explained both our preceding intercourses with Mr. Dundas, and our sentiments relative to the subject of it, as we have now stated them. On the 6th the subject came to be considered, and after a long debate, we had the honour to move that a new commission should be issued for the government of Fort St. George, containing the names of the old members, excepting that of Mr. Petrie, together with the name of Sir Samuel Auchmuty. Upon this an amendment was moved to the following effect:

"That Sir G. H. Barlow should be appointed governor.

"Sir S. Auchmuty, commander in chief, and second in council.

"W. Petrie, esq. third in council, "and on the coming away, death, or "resignation of Sir G. Barlow, to "succeed to the government.

"Thomas Oakes, esq. fourth in coun-"cil."

At this time there were twenty-three members in court, and Mr. Mills, who was absent, was known to be of the same opinion with us upon the present subject.

After the debate upon this amendment had proceeded some time, a motion of adjournment was made by the gentlemen opposed to us; we presumed to try their strength. It was negatived by the ballot, and Sir F. Baring, one of those gentlemen, went away, despairing, as we conceived, of the main question. To arrive at that question according to the forms of debate, it was next moved, "that the words proposed by the amendment to be left out, (that is to say the words of our original motion) "stand part of the question." This was carried in the affirmative. The amendment which proposed to retain Mr. Petrie and exclude Mr. Casamaijor, was thus rejected. Then came on the main question; there being twenty-two directors present, and to the general surprize, as we believe, there appeared eleven for, and eleven against the motion. Our idea was that one of the gentlemen, who thought with us had, by mistake, put his ball into the wrong box. According to the law provided in the case of equal votes by ballot, the question was to be determined by the drawing of a lot. The lot drawn decided against our question, which was thus lost; and the proceeding of that day left the government of Fort St. George as it stood before, though by the rejection of the amendment, which proposed that Mr. Petrie should remain in council, the sense of the court was then shewn upon what, indeed, was the real point in debate.

It was impossible to leave the government in this state, because, besides the other reasons which first impelled us to

bring on the question, Sir Samuel Auchmuty's refusal to proceed to India before a new commission was settled, rendered that measure immediately necessary.

We therefore gave notice of bringing on the question again on the 10th of April. Before that day, a member of the direction, who happened to sit next to colonel Taylor at dinner, informed the chairman, that colonel Taylor stated to him he had voted against our motion, not from the intention of supporting Mr. Petrie, but, because, having asked in the debate whether the carrying of that question would preclude the future consideration of Sir G. Barlow's conduct? and having received no answer from the chairman, he concluded it would; and therefore voted against the question; but that, if he was satisfied of the contrary, it would be agreeable to his first intention to vote in the next debate for the removal of Mr. Petrie. The chairman hereupon requested the friend who gave him this information to assure colonel Taylor, that it was entirely from oversight his question had not been answered; that so far from intending to preclude inquiry into the conduct of Sir G. Barlow, it was the chairman's meaning and expectation that it should be distinctly considered, with a view to the remuneration of his services, and on that occasion, any gentleman would have an opportunity of delivering his opinion. The Chairman himself took occasion to give the same explanation to colonel Taylor, and he repeated it in his place, when the debate was renewed on the 10th of April, when also colonel Taylor publicly stated what he had before said in private conversation.

On that day we moved the same question, which we originally brought forward on the 6th. The amendment which had been proposed on that day was also moved again; that amendment was lost by the ballot; and the main question was, on a second vote, carried by the ballot, whereby the name of Mr. Petrie was omitted in the new commission of government for Madras, and that of Sir S. Auchmuty inserted. This passed before Mr. Robarts, who was avowedly with us, but retarded by indisposition, arrived, and for whom it would have been easy to have waited. Without him the votes for the removal of Mr. Petrie were twelve to ten; with him, if colonel Taylor had still been against us, the question would have been carried; and as the sense of the court really was, there were of the twenty-four directors, fourteen, including Mr. Mills, who was in the country, for the removal.

From this plain account, which is open to the observation of every gentleman who was in court, it is clear that there was a real majority of the directors for the removal of Mr. Petrie; that colonel Taylor's having, on the first day, voted with the minority, proceeded from misconception, not from intention, to support Mr. Petrie; that his change on the subsequent day sprung from himself, in consistency with his original sentiments; and that, without him, the question, by waiting for Mr. Robarts, would have been carried on the 10th, so that both the idea which some seem to have entertained that a lot decided the question, and the idea held forth in two of the dissents that the question would again have been referred to the lot, if one member had not been induced to change his opinion, prove to be every way unfounded.

So likewise, in respect to the assertion contained in the dissent of Sir F. Baring and Sir H. Inglis: "Mr. Dundas acknowledges that it was in the contemplation "of the chairs to remove Mr. Petrie as early as January last." Mr. Dundas certainly acknowledges no such thing, but plainly intimates that the overture upon that subject came from him, as his own letter annexed will show. The foregoing statement contains the true account of this matter.

It is said in another dissent, and as it seems, in the way of reflection, that "the chairs brought before the court two minutes." But can it be necessary to observe that the president of the board sent these minutes to the court officially through the medium of the chairs. This is the usual way in which public questions are proposed by the president to the court; and the most convenient way. The chairs have no power to refuse or withhold from the court official communications made to them in that manner, unless with consent of the president; and if possessing such a power, they were to exercise it, the only consequence would be, that the same communication would come publicly to the court through the secretary of the board.

With regard to the question of acting upon the authority of those two minutes, it is to be observed, that one of the principles upon which it is very justly held that private, extra-official, ex parte communications, are not proper grounds for any important measures is, that they want the authenticity which documents transmitted by the government must have. But these minutes, though privately communicated in England, were public records, authenticated by the chief secretary of the government of Fort St. George; and they were not confined to one side—they contained the case of both parties stated by themselves respectively. There was not a doubt entertained about their authenticity (Mr. Dundas, indeed, supposed that Mr. Petrie's friends also had copies of them), and as these papers therefore, though not coming through the regular channel, possessed the same credibility which the regular channel would have given them, and contained al-

so a complete case within themselves, the charge, and the defence, the only point before the court was, whether either the question of continuing Mr. Petrie in the council, which some members of the court were determined to bring on, or the question of making room for general Auchmuty, which must at any rate have come on, should be considered, without regarding the very important matter directly bearing on these questions, contained in those authenticated minutes? We do not know that a case similar to this had ever before come under the consideration of the court; but we had no doubt in our minds that, as it was become unavoidable to decide on the continuance or removal of Mr. Petrie, there was no comparison between dispensing with somewhat of form, and shutting out substantial and important information from our view.

It was objected likewise, that the consultations might contain further matter respecting the disputes between Sir G. Barlow and Mr. Petrie; and that, therefore, until they were received, the court should not decide upon that subject; but besides the necessity already explained, of proceeding to the question immediately, it was presumable that, up to the date of the minutes, the consultations could contain nothing of importance for or against either party in relation to the dispute between them, which was not adverted to in one or other of those minutes; and that no record subsequent to them, was likely materially to alter the state of facts given in them, which, as already said, made a complete case; unless, indeed, a rejoinder from Sir G. Barlow should have brought into question any part of Mr. Petrie's minute, which rejoinder, had it proved nothing, would only have left Mr. Petrie's minute confirmed in the credit it claimed at first.

As to the insinuations thrown out at that time, that the Madras consultations were intentionally withheld in order to give an advantage to Sir George Barlow's cause, we could not admit the remotest suspicion of that kind; and the event has shewn that there was nothing on the subject in question to withhold the regular consultations, since arrived, contained no further record relative to it.

In noticing misrepresentations, we think we ought not to pass over a passage in one of the dissents, which describes the president of the board of control as "active, by public and private means, to remove an absent, innocent, meritorious individual, who cannot plead his own cause." We deem it right to say, that we believe this statement to be unjust to the motives and conduct of Mr. Dundas; and although it is our intention to avoid all remark upon the language and manner of the dissents, so far as they are pointed to ourselves, and to attend only to the matter of them, yet this passage exhibits so strong an instance of the violation of that decorum which the court very properly maintains in its public writings, particularly towards a department entitled to the observance of respect, and with which the court has to carry on such constant intercourse, that we must express the concern we felt, and still feel, on perusing it.

Of Mr. Buchan, who is probably the gentleman alluded to in the same passage as "the private instrument of Sir G. Barlow," we think it also fair to say, that we understand him to be a servant of high character for honour and for talents, sent home publicly by the government of Fort St. George from a most confidential situation to give information to the court; and though it is to be concluded from his mission that the intent on of sending him was to corroborate, by his intelligence, the representations of the government; yet neither that circumstance, nor the omission of the court to hear and examine him, which it was competent to any director to propose, annuls the designation under which he came here.

The late chairman being in the passage just alluded to, and in several others, personally attacked, he begs leave to offer a very brief defence. The "activity" with which he also is charged in employing "public and private means" to remove Mr. Petrie was, in reality, no other than that of which he has already given an account. With a strong opinion on the impropriety of the line of conduct adopted by Mr. Petrie, he, however, used his influence successfully to put off the consideration of his case; and unless that consideration had been forced on from other quarters, it would not have taken place whilst he remained in the chair. Activity in this matter is, therefore, most unsuitably imputed to him. As to the heightening terms used in speaking of Mr. Petrie,—"an absent man who cannot plead his own cause," is it not the constant practice here to examine the conduct of servants when they are in India? and has not Mr. Petrie expressly pleaded his own cause in the minute before us? The term "innocent," also employed, assumes the whole matter in dispute.

The same thing is done when the late chairman, who had in the year 1805, in conjunction with the court, censured the exercise of a despotic power in Bengal, is charged now with supporting the cause of despotism at Madras, because he has concurred in the removal of Mr. Petrie. The nature of the charge here is this;—"Mr. Petrie has been removed for differing from the governor: if counsellors are removed because they differ with the governor, no man will venture to give an opinion in opposition to him; and thus he becomes despotic." This argumen assumes, that no man in the station of a counsellor will do his duty, if the performance it to expose him to the loss of his place; a position certainly which public men ought not

to maintain, especially in public writings. But Mr. Petrie was removed because his conduct was thought wrong; and shall it be said, that if the conduct of a counsellor is really culpable, though in opposition to the governor, he may not be removed, lest others should improperly yield to a governor, and so the governor become despotic? It might naturally be expected, as a consequence of adopting any principle of this kind, that counsellors would be led to assume an undue and factious licence. There is no sound rule of acting in this case, but to judge both counsellors and governors according to their real merits. The merits of the different lines of conduct pursued by Sir G. Barlow and Mr. Petrie have been already tried by the court, and a determination passed in favour of the former. The propriety, indeed, of this decision is combated in the dissents; and it will, therefore, no doubt be defended by those gentlemen who concurred in that decision, and with them the late chairman will have the honour to act.

The next charge brought against the late chairman is founded upon a paragraph of a letter which was last year proposed to be addressed to the Bengal government, relative to the interference of that government with the nabob of Oude, in behalf of a British subject who had claims in that country. The letter was not penned, as the dissent assumes, by the late chairman, and it was pointed, not against the conduct of Sir G. Barlow only, as the dissent may also be understood to imply, but took up the business from its commencement, early in the government of marquis Wellesley, and censured the principles and grounds on which it proceeded through five or six years of that government, and conformably to which it was completed in the first year of Sir G. Barlow's administration.

Now the amount of this charge is, that the late chairman having disapproved of the whole of this transaction, comprehending that part of it which fell within the time of Sir G. Barlow's government, is guilty of "gross and glaring partiality," because he now supports the cause of Sir G. Barlow in opposition to that of Mr. Petrie. This charge not only assumes the truth of the one immediately preceding, which has been already repelled, but implies no less than this surprising proposition; "that the conduct of a governor having, in one instance, been disapproved as wrong, it is not therefore to be approved in another instance where it is thought right." Such a proposition carries its own refutation with it; but the late chairman affirms, that he has in fact done no more than censure one measure which he deemed to be improper (though he never conceived it ought to have been followed by a removal from office) and has, on another occasion, supported a course of measures which he judged to be decidedly right.

The late chairman thinks it expedient to avail himself of the present opportunity to state, that this support has been given on public grounds. Though Sir G. Barlow and he were for a time contemporary on the Bengal establishment, there was hardly any personal acquaintance between them; and they never exchanged a letter until sixteen years after Mr. Grant had been in England. Sir G. Barlow, on becoming governor-general on the death of marquis Cornwallis, wrote to Mr. Grant, as chairman of the East India company. The correspondence which has passed between them since, has turned on public subjects, and has been conducted on public principles, which, it is presumed, would do neither of them discredit. Mr. Grant does not recollect that the name or conduct of Mr. Petrie has ever been mentioned in the letters of Sir G. Barlow, or in his own, until the removal of Mr. Petrie from council.

For the general defence of that measure, in opposition to the opinions advanced against it in the dissents, we must jointly refer you, gentlemen, to another paper, in which it is discussed at large.

We have the honour to be, Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servants,
(Signed) C. Grant.
East-India House, W. Astell.
10th September, 1810.

THE PAPER.

*** The length of the document referred to in the concluding paragraph of the preceding letter, must preclude the insertion of it in an entire state, in the present volume. The editor, regretting that he cannot insert the whole, has nevertheless some satisfaction in being able to allow a place to the substance of the Paper which more especially professes to be an answer to the dissents of particular directors of the East India company.

The Paper sets out with the intention of tracing the causes of the revolt of the officers of the Madras army, assuming, as a principle, "That the revolt was not a mere paroxysm of resentment, into which men were suddenly hurried from a state of perfect subordination; it had in it, (as is alleged) characters of matured, systematic combination and pretension, which could only be the Work of Time."

The alleged remote and proximate causes of the revolt are then considered; the first being supposed to originate in the constitution and distribution of the Indian army, its peculiar habits, and its supposed pretensions, arising out of an erroneous consideration and comparison of the nature of its services, with those of the civil branch of the company's servants, from a mixture of the company's with the king's forces; from extraordinary indulgence shewn to the former, from a notion consequently entertained by it, of its own importance, and of the imaginary power of its officers over the native establishment of troops, from com-

binations originally tolerated, or not suppressed by the local government, which proceeded from stage to stage, until the actors or movers in them became impatient of all controul, terminating in a decided revolt of the majority of the officers of the army. In support of these assertions, the correspondence of certain officers, in extensive or more limited command, as well as the reports of the government on the conduct of Individuals, or particular transactions are referred to. From the separate, distinct, and occasional acts of particular persons at stated times, which are recapitulated in this part of the paper, the general revolt at a subsequent æra, is attempted to be inferred.

The conduct of general Mc Dowall, as explained, other things, indeed, co-operating with it, such as the unreasonable expectations of the army, is mentioned as the prominent proximate cause of the disaffection.

After explaining in detail the progress of the discontent and revolt, and after ascribing the whole to the ungovernable spirit and insubordination of the officers of the army, and drawing opposite conclusions from the facts stated, and relied on by the dissentient directors, the Paper proceeds.

We have now gone through the review which we proposed to ourselves of the origin and progress of the disputes between the officers of the Madras army, and the government of that presidency. And we trust that it has been demonstrated, by the great body of facts and evidences which we have produced, that the aggression did not begin on the part of government, but on that of the officers: that the progress of disaffection and hostility among the officers was owing essentially, not to the want of conciliation in government, which acted constitutionally in defence of its own rights, but to inveterate spirit of an insubordination and pretension, which seditious acts had inflamed in the officers, who aimed at unallowable or illegal objects by criminal means; and that the suppression of the revolt was effected by a wise and vigorous application of the resources of the Fort St. George government.

Of the many instructive lessons which the history of this remarkable affair furnishes, lessons which we trust will not be disregarded, it may be permitted to us to advert to one or two connected with the scope of this paper: the first is the importance of maintaining in unimpaired vigour the authority of our Indian governments. Ever since we have possessed territory in India, there has been a disposition in the European body there, particularly the military officers, to enlarge their own powers and privileges. The great lord Clive was very early sensible of this truth, and, in the year 1765, thus delivered his sentiments upon it to the court of directors: "this regulation (to increase the number of military officers of rank) beneficial and necessary as it is, will, notwithstanding, be productive of one dangerous evil, if not constantly guarded against by the authority of the governor and council, supported and enforced by the higher powers at home. The evil I mean to apprise you of, is the encroachment of the military upon the civil jurisdiction, and an attempt to be independent of their authority. A spirit of this kind has always been visible: our utmost vigilance, therefore, is requisite to suppress it, or at least to take care that it shall not actually prevail. I have been at some pains to inculcate a total subjection of the army to the government, and I doubt not you will ever maintain that principle." And early in 1767 the same distinguished man, then taking his leave of the government of Bengal, thinks it important to inculcate the same sentiment still more forcibly, and in relation to the civil as well as military servants. "No regulation can be carried into execution, no order obeyed, if you do not make rigorous examples of the disobedient. Upon this point I rest the welfare of the company in Bengal. The servants are now brought to a proper sense of their duty. If you slacken the reins of government, affairs will soon revert to their former channel; anarchy and corruption will again prevail, and, elate with a new victory, be too headstrong for any future efforts of government. Recal to your memories the many attempts that have been made in the civil and military departments, to overcome our authority, and to set up a kind of independency against the court of directors. Reflect also on the resolute measures we have pursued, and their wholesome effects. Disobedience to legal power is the first step to sedition; and palliative remedies effect no cure. Every tender compliance, every condescension on your parts, will only encourage more flagrant attacks, which will daily increase in strength, and be at last in vain resisted." . . . . "I repeat, that you must not fail to exact the most implicit obedience to your orders. Dismiss or suspend from the service any man who shall dare to dispute your authority. If you deviate from the principle upon which we have hitherto acted, and upon which you are conscious you ought to proceed, or if you do not make a proper use of that power with which you are invested, I shall hold myself acquitted, as I do now protest against the consequences."

The legislature, since his lordship's time, has, by various acts, happily and wisely placed a great degree of power in the hands of the administrators of British India; both the administrators abroad and those to whose control they are subject at home. But vigilance and resolution

in the exercise of that power are still and ever will be necessary. The maintenance of it in its form and spirit, both in India and in England, is, as we conceive, necessary to the preservation of our eastern empire. If the will of the community in India, Native or European, military or civil, come, either by compulsion or influence on their side, or by relaxation on the part of government, to dictate in the choice of public measures and public men, there is an end of the supremacy of this country, and of the company, over India.

That supremacy stands or falls, is preserved or impaired, as the local governments are maintained in due vigour, or decline into feebleness: and all advances to a preponderance of local influence, either by undermining or overawing the constitutional authority of those governments, must proportionably diminish their efficiency, and the security of that system of administration on which the welfare of both countries so much depends. There is a tendency in every community, especially of Europeans settled in distant dependencies of their mother country, to prefer the local interests of those depencies, to aim at local influence in their public affairs, and to make the voice and opinions of their community the standard of right and wrong in respect to those affairs. Wherever their opinions come in opposition to the local government, they should be regarded with great caution. Local governments are to be punished for misconduct, especially that which tends to alienate the affections of the people; but rarely indeed should the judgment of the local community be allowed any lead in this matter. A governor may render himself obnoxious to the people under him, by a steady adherence to public duty, at the sacrifice of the private interests of others, and his own popularity; and the consequence may be, a combination to run him down, and, by discrediting his measures or embarrassing his government, to effect a change. Such an effect would in reality strengthen the local influence, and proportionably diminish the power of the constitutional authorities. The legal authority, therefore, of government in India, ought to be maintained in its full vigour; not in view to the interest of the individuals who may happen to be in the government, but to the interest of the state. The popular voice may speak truth and reason, and there it ought to be attended to; not because it is popular, but because it is just. The popular voice of colonial establishments will generally be for local interests. It is certainly the easier and more popular way for a governor to lend himself to private or partial interests when in opposition to those of the public, or to temporize and bend when a steady adherence to duty appears to be attended with conflict or danger: and he may then too be tempted to think the most convenient way also the safest. But when a numerous body is united in the pursuit of important interests, particularly when a great body of European military officers of our Indian armies are combined to struggle for favourite objects, they are not to be diverted by words or complaisance. To hold a temporizing conduct is but the preliminary to concession, and concession in such circumstances is defeat—the defeat of legitimate authority—and the triumph of a body which ought to have whatever is reasonable by voluntary grant, but not even what is reasonable through the instrumentality of encroachment or usurpation. In maintaining these sentiments we think we consult the permanent interest of the community, military and civil, as well as that of the Indian governments and of this nation. We, not less than those who have used the language of indulgence with respect to all the late excesses of the army, are sincere well-wishers to their lasting welfare and fame. We are aware that the malignant arts of a few designing persons, and the rashness of many inexperienced ones, have essentially contributed to produce the astonishing spectacle which has lately been exhibited. We deeply lament the errors of the military, and wish perfect amity to be restored between them and their superiors: but these sentiments do not require, nor can any thing induce us to compromise the unalterable principles of good government, on the maintenance of which the true happiness of all society must depend.

From the preceding doctrine a question naturally arises, concerning the influence which the unpopularity of any Indian government ought to have upon the judgment and conduct of the Indian authorities at home. It is obviously extremely desirable on various accounts, particularly for the easy transaction of the public business and the satisfaction of those living under the government, that its character should be popular; but it is obvious also, that popularity ought not to be purchased at the expense of principle, or of the public interest; and that as it may be acquired by improper sacrifices, so it may be lost by an adherence to the obligations of duty. When discussions arise in any state or community, it is to be expected that the party which is in opposition to the government will represent its proceedings in an unfavourable manner. In such a case, the mere fact of its being unpopular determines nothing. Before that fact is adopted here, as a charge against a government, the causes of the unpopularity ought to be fairly investigated. If the stability of the governments abroad is to depend on the voice of local faction or party, or on the opinions, more or less general, which local communities may be induced to adopt, and

not on the reason of things, there is an end of the supremacy of the executive body at home. On this account even when governments are wrong, and are seen to be so by the unbiassed sense of those around them, it should be demonstrated that the authorities here act from their own deliberate judgment, and not from extraneous influences.

In the case now before us, of Sir G. Barlow, against whom the charge of unpopularity is often and vehemently urged in this country, it is manifest that the causes whence his unpopularity at Fort St George has chiefly sprung, are the affair of Mr. Sherson, the proceedings connected with the Carnatic debts, and the discontents of the officers of the army. In all these cases, the objects for which he and the majority of the council contended were public principle and public justice, the just interest and authority of the company, in opposition to private interest, which was deeply concerned in every one of these cases. He had also to carry into effect the difficult but necessary work of great retrenchments, which hardly any efforts on the part of a government can render palatable ; and it has appeared what an extraordinary combination of factions he had to resist. He is not, as far as we know, accused of having acted from selfish or interested views —the charges against his personal character respecting chiefly his temper and manner. He is represented as cold and repulsive, then, (not very consistently) as violent and harsh; and it would seem from all these accounts, as if his manners had no small influence in producing the rebellion. But we do not understand that Sir G. Barlow has in fact been impelled, as frequent expressions in the dissents before us might lead the reader to conceive, from any thing violent, harsh, or irascible in his character. We are led to believe that he is a man of a calm, temperate, mind; and though he is unpopular with those to whose ambition or interest his sense of duty has placed him in opposition, or with others influenced by their representations, yet we cannot easily express our sense of the injustice done him, when he is described in the language of Mr. Pattison, himself entirely unacquainted with the scene, as "held in execration by a whole settlement, civil and military ;" and by Mr. Elphinstone, who, taking occasion to speak of another gentleman, lieutenant-colonel Leith, an officer highly distinguished by his talents, and his faithful able discharge of the difficult and obnoxious office of judge advocate general, is pleased to say, that "he is a man almost as much detested as Sir G. Barlow himself." Nor can we forbear remarking here, that, it is in papers wherein passages of this nature are not unfrequently found, wherein Sir G. Barlow is charged with intentionally keeping back the records, (when, as it now appears, there was nothing kept back or concealed,) with monstrous absurdity, with folly, and wickedness :—that he is also represented, on the ground of his public writings, which, in our humble opinion, are conspicuous for temperate manner and official style, as dealing "in violent, malignant invective,"—"in abusive language without measure, attacking respectable characters, without either proof or probability to support his assertions." Though these last charges are founded on Sir G. Barlow's writings, of which, as they are now printed, the world will judge, the opinion in general delivered by the authors of the dissents respecting his character must have been adopted from the reports of others, as these gentlemen themselves had no personal knowledge of him. Those opinions, entirely coincide with the representations of his adversaries, as do the views of the transactions at Madras, given generally in the dissents; which, in our apprehension, furnish a very remarkable instance of judging against the great mass of recorded evidence, and according to the tenor of anonymous, interested, unproved, accusation. This appears still more striking when a fact, which we believe to be undisputed, is considered; namely, that every one of the authors of those dissents voted, a very short time before the date of them, for the continuance of Sir G. Barlow as governor in a new commission for the government of Madras.

But, after all, Sir G. Barlow appears to have lived in entire cordiality with a most respectable part of the community of Fort St. George, including the eminent person who presides in the court of justice there, two of the members of council, the successor to general Macdowall in the command of the army, and other distinguished servants, civil and military, as well as to have carried on the public business in great harmony with the supreme government and the other presidencies, and with the commanders of his majesty's squadron.

If, in pursuing through thorny paths, those laudable objects which have been described, he had even somewhat erred in his course, he would still be entitled to our respect; but if, from principle and duty, he has, unswayed by all the influence with which he was surrounded, and unawed by the most formidable combinations, any governor had to contend with, sacrificed so many personal considerations, and hazarded all personal consequences; if he has also, by extraordinary fortitude, energy, and ability, crushed faction, subdued rebellion, and established the just authority and dignity of government, he has exhibited a high example of public virtue and public service

as honourable to the country, as it would be disgraceful to it to reward such a man with obloquy and condemnation.

We come now to the question of the removal of Mr. Petrie from the council of Fort St. George, and the reasons on which that measure was founded.

Concerning the time and manner in which the question was brought forward in the court of directors, the circumstances and the motives which led to the introduction of it at that time; the manner in which the votes were given upon it, and an unbiassed majority finally decided for a new commission of government, wherein the name of Mr. Petrie was omitted, the late chairman and deputy chairman, in opposition to the representations given in the dissents, have laid before the court a justificatory statement, to the accuracy of which, as far as it describes what passed in the sittings of the court, we must bear our testimony, and we trust it will be found effectually to settle all these preliminary points.

But to some other points of a preliminary nature, we must ourselves particularly speak.

The dissents generally assert, in substance, what has been peremptorily affirmed in print, in the introduction to Mr. Petrie's statement, that he has "been dismissed from his situation in council, for no other reason than his having presumed (in compliance with his duty, and with the repeated orders of the court of directors to the members of their different councils) to record, in decorous and modest language, his dissent to proceedings which he considered to be subversive of the law, and dangerous to the public service." To this assertion we must oppose the most positive and distinct denial, as we did to the same allegation when first advanced in the discussion in court. And we must also combat a dangerous principle, which may be implied in or deduced from the unfounded account here given. True it is, the court of directors have encouraged and required that the members of their governments shall state on the minutes of council, in temperate and decorous language, their reasons for dissenting to measures of importance adopted by the majority. We approve of those instructions, and intend to abide by them; but it never was the meaning of the court of directors, that a gentleman's recording his opinion in opposition to any measure should exonerate him from responsibility for that opinion, and for the line of conduct followed by him in respect to that measure. Such a construction would afford an easy refuge from the consequences of the most exceptionable proceeding, and destroy one great use of the regulation, which is not only to bring before the court of directors all the arguments against, as well as those for great measures, but to afford them the means of judging more strictly of the conduct, principles, and talents of every member of government. And it is further to be observed on this head, that in the encouraging the exercise of a decent freedom of opinion, the court of directors have utterly prohibited all factious opposition.

We therefore totally deny also the unwarranted conclusion assumed in the dissents, that the councils of our governments abroad will henceforth be reduced to a cypher, and the governor possess the sole power, whereby the government will be rendered arbitrary. The conclusion being deduced from unfounded premises falls of itself: but besides that the present measure is not likely to lead practically to any such doctrine in India, it will always be true that a counsellor cannot divest himself of responsibility any more in supporting than in opposing the measures of a majority.

Secondly. It is to be carefully remembered that the real question before us, was not simply whether Mr. Petrie should be removed from council, but whether he who, through the whole progress of a most arduous period, had opposed that course of measures which the authorities at home have judged to have been proper and necessary, or either of the other two civil members of council, who had uniformly supported that course of measures, should be continued in the council. There was a necessity of removing one, sir Samuel Auchmuty, the newly appointed commander-in-chief, having been also nominated to be second in council, and the whole number of counsellors being by law limited to three. The question then was whether Mr. Petrie, who had opposed those measures, or one of the other two members, both of whom had supported them, should be removed. The dissents, in discussing this measure, have introduced, we think improperly, allusions to personal motives which may have biassed in the adoption of it. We trust that we might safely leave our characters to speak for themselves against any allusion of that nature; but in a time of so much misrepresentation, we think it not amiss to declare, each from consciousness in himself, and from belief for the whole, that we have been governed in this affair by the great motives of public duty and public good. "That Mr. Petrie's defence has not been heard," and "that he has been removed on clandestine evidence," we are surprised to see some of the dissents asserting, when his minute is a professed defence, delivered by himself to the board of Madras, in answer to the charges brought against him by sir G. Barlow; and when it was acknowledged by some of his supporters, in the discussion of the subject, that there could be no doubt of the authenticity of the copy of that document, laid before the court under the signature of the secre-

tary to the government of Fort St. George. We acted upon the statement of those charges by sir G. Barlow, and that defence by Mr. Petrie, not upon anonymous publications of any description, as seems to be idly surmised, nor upon private application, nor to gratify any individual. And as to the objection made, when those documents so authenticated were laid before the court; "that the Madras consultations were not then arrived," an objection which was over ruled from the exigency of the case, and the apprehended sufficiency of those documents, particularly the evidence from the defence of Mr. Petrie himself, it has been found that those consultations, since received, contain nothing more upon the subject.

The dissents have also introduced a comparison between the merits and services of Mr. Petrie and sir G. Barlow. The measure of removing Mr. Petrie which a sense of duty imposed on us, we adopted with reluctance, but with no wish to say or do any thing which might add to the pain he must naturally feel on such an occasion. Those gentlemen who espoused his cause have, by arraigning that measure, forced us into a defence of it, and hence, into an examination of Mr. Petrie's conduct, which we would otherwise have avoided. We think this comparison was still less expedient. Had the arduous task been accomplished of establishing by argument, (a mode which has not been adopted,) that Mr. Petrie was right in the line of conduct he held respecting all the controverted questions, it would still have remained an undertaking of no small difficulty to prove that Mr. Petrie's preceding services had surpassed in importance and merit those of sir George Barlow. But we do not feel ourselves called upon to occupy time in discussing a question upon which we confess, without meaning any disrespect to Mr. Petrie, we were not aware, until we saw the dissents, that the opinion advanced upon it in them had been at all entertained. Only as to the extent of time and the employments in which the two gentlemen have served the company, we should just observe, that it is indeed above forty years since Mr. Petrie entered the service, but that he has passed only twenty-eight years in India, having been, since his first appointment, four times at home, twice for six years at a time; whence it is natural he should be better known here than sir G. Barlow, who has never been in England since he first entered the service in 1778, a period of thirty-one years. With respect to employments, Mr. Petrie, after having held several respectable offices for short periods, became incidentally a member of council for six weeks in 1787. In 1788 the court passed some animadversion on one part of his conduct in a paragraph to Madras, which was struck out by the board of commissioners, and an approbation substituted. In 1789 he came back the third time to England with a recommendation from the Madras government "that he might be" (not extraordinarily remunerated or distinguished but) "allowed to return to the service when his health should permit." In 1791 he went again to Madras, with the appointment from home of third in council, and to succeed pro tempore to the government in case of vacancy; but in 1792 he came home the fourth time. In 1798 he returned to Madras with the appointment from England of a seat in council, and the temporary succession to the government. In 1802, Mr. Petrie was presented by the court, as is stated in one of the dissents, with the sum of 10,000 pagodas, "as a mark of the high sense they entertained of his long and faithful services." His time of actual service then amounted in all to about 20 years: and as this present, which was given when lord William Bentinck was appointed successor to lord Clive, is quoted to aggravate the alledged injustice of his late removal, we must fairly say, that if it is intended to adduce the present as a "proof" of the superiority of Mr. Petrie's services, in length or in value, to those of many other servants not so remunerated, a review of facts will not, in our opinion, support the intention. Mr. Petrie has remained in India since 1798; and the course of his service under the governments of lord Clive, lord William Bentick, and sir George Barlow, with the short period of less than four months in which he held the government himself, is sufficiently known. Sir G. Barlow is known to have devoted himself, through the whole of his service, to an uninterrupted course of public labours, by which he has been, ever since the beginning of the year 1787, that is, soon after lord Cornwallis entered on the government of India, eminently distinguished. In the year 1788 he was appointed to the charge of the secretaryship of the revenue department, and held it during all the period in which the great institutions of lord Cornwallis respecting the land tenures of Bengal, and the administration of justice were framed. In 1796 he was called to the arduous employment of chief secretary to the government, and in 1802 appointed a member of the supreme government. He has been twice nominated successor to the office of governor-general, has filled that office two years, was removed from it only by his majesty's warrant, and was in 1807 appointed to the government of Madras. So far are the testimonies in favour of Mr. Petrie from being "unprecedented in the annals of the company," —an expression which surprised us—that, if the public records are consulted, those in favour of sir G. Barlow, both from home and from India, will be found more numerous and more strong.

Fourthly. As, in the course of the pre-

ceding reivew, we have been led to advert to certain facts and documents which were not under the notice of the court of directors when the measure of removing Mr. Petrie was adopted, we desire to be understood as not resting that measure in any degree upon them, but as quoting them only to illustrate the propriety of it, and the merits of the general questions under discussion. But having, in the same review taken frequent occasion to deliver our sentiments upon particular points in the opinions or conduct of Mr. Petrie, which are either professed in his minute, or fairly deducible from it, or are elucidated by other facts publicly known at the time of his removal, we must request that, though our observations of that nature cannot be recapitulated here, they may be considered as having then influenced our judgment and as being now urged in support of it. And whenever our conduct in relation to this affair shall be examined, we protest against excluding, in the consideration of it, the aforegoing observations, more particularly, though not exclusively, those which relate to the questions concerning general Macdowall, colonel Capper and major Boles, the discontents of the officers, the suspensions of the 1st of May, the test of the 26th July, and the causes which terminated the revolt.

Fifthly. We shall, therefore, after these introductory remarks, proceed to state in a summary way, under general heads, the grounds upon which our opinion was formed, and we think is justified, that the removal of Mr. Petrie from council was proper and necessary.

1st. Mr. Petrie was, in our judgment, totally wrong in his whole system of policy with respect to the officers of the army. We do not mean that conciliation is not at all times desirable, and ought not to have been preferred if it had been practicable; but that the insubordinate seditious conduct of the officers left no means of conciliation on the part of government, unless passive submission to insult and degradation be called such, and that these means would only have increased the measure of military usurpation, and rendered the government incompetent to the proper performance of the high duties entrusted to it. Mr. Petrie, in the whole of his conduct and reasonings, seems not to have seriously taken into his contemplation, the credit, efficiency, or security of the government. He has indeed spoken of "dignity, firmness, moderation," of an "appropriate general order," (which would, as we have shewn, have been an act of imbecility) of "producing happier effects at less expense;" and the authors of the dissents, who have coincided in his views, have held much general language of the same kind: but neither Mr. Petrie nor they have given us the least definite idea of the manner in which he would have acted, had the conduct of affairs been in his hands, unless it were by concession: nor from the nature of the case does it appear that there was any possible mode of action, except by resisting insubordination and sedition, or in one form or another, by concession, connivance, or passiveness, yielding to them. The ill success of attempts to gain the army by forbearance, temporizing, and patience under open revolt, was fully exemplified in the conduct of colonel Montresor, commandant at Hydrabad, and colonel Malcolm at Masulipatam. And in fact it appears that Mr. Petrie looked chiefly to concession. But whilst no real attention was manifested by Mr. Petrie to the interest and the character of legitimate authority, he seemed to set no bounds to the lengths to which he would permit the army to go, rather than enter into serious contest with them, nor to consider what the effects of unrestrained military licence and encroachment must be. Whilst he was alive to infinite dangers on the one side, he seems to have adverted to none on the other. To that the foresight ascribed to him does not appear to have been turned. The officers, on his principles, must have had their will; the public disgrace of government in its compelled rescinding of its own orders passed for the suppression of open rebellion; the removal from office of individuals, whose merits had rendered them obnoxious to the officers; the establishment of the "rights of the army;"—the recommendation at least of government for the "appointment of a representative of the army" to council; the overthrow of retrenchments, &c. We mean not that Mr. Petrie has said this, but that it would be the result of his system. He thought that if an open conflict was prevented, the grand point was secured; and to obtain this it would seem, for any thing that appears, he would have abandoned to chance all other consequences. "To my judgment," says Mr. Petrie, "the repeal of every order passed for the last eight months," (his meaning is probably the same as in his statement, where he says twelve months) "would be a lesser evil than shedding a drop of British blood in a civil contest.". . . "To me concession seemed as a feather when placed in the scale against the revolt of the army, a civil war, and the probable loss of the country." He seeks to justify his opinion by saying "that greater powers than ours had conceded to expediency or necessity." The allusions which it would appear he had in view here, namely, the proceedings of the volunteers in Ireland, and the mutiny in our fleet, were cases utterly different, not threatening the subversion of the British government;

and, in assuming that concession was dictated to the Fort St. George government by "expediency and necessity," he has begged the whole question. The result has at least proved that concession was not necessary. But Mr. Petrie does not appear to have had an idea that revolt could have been successfully resisted; and, after he has seen the contrary, he has (dangerously we think) assigned to great and singular good fortune," what was the effect of the real strength and rational measures of government. It would seem, indeed, that he apprehended no danger from the largest concessions. He thought that sir G. Barlow hazarded every thing for a form, and that his own course would have secured the substance. And here it is that we hold Mr. Petrie to have been essentially wanting in the judgment required in the station and circumstances in which he was placed. It is our decided opinion that Mr. Petrie's system would have sacrificed the substance, would have weakened and degraded the government, and have given an ascendancy to the military power, which must either in the end have been opposed with more disadvantage by an open struggle, or have been productive of confusion and danger, internal and external. The effect of Mr. Petrie's mode of thinking on this subject is not to be confined to his own conduct only. The general tenour both of his sentiments and conduct must have been known to the army and the public, and without supposing any factious view on his part, have produced an influence prejudicial to the government. And having not only acted upon, but published to the world, those sentiments in favour of indefinitive concession to the army, and against all serious resistance to them, we think it was unfit that a person known to hold such sentiments should remain a member of government, in the station too next the chair, and more especially at a time when unanimity in the government upon this great question of the line of policy to be held with the army was so requisite, and when the unequivocal and decided support of the measures of that government by the court of directors was so important.

2d. Upon the principles or opinions Mr. Petrie himself has avowed, his conduct appears to us to have been extremely culpable.

In the month of October, 1807, when he was in the government, he stated repeatedly and forcibly to the court of directors, that a very dangerous spirit of insubordination and cabal had lately shown itself in the army, (which must be dangerous to all armies) which, after the events that had agitated the Native army of that presidency, might lead to consequences of the most fatal nature: and we are satisfied," continues the public letter of his government, signed by him, "that nothing but a firm determination to resist and to punish every appearance of disrespect to the public authority, can uphold that degree of discipline which is essential to the existence of your army."

We hear no more of this language or tone from Mr. Petrie in the government of his successor, although the spirit of insubordination was progressive, originating, as was observed before, from no act of sir G. Barlow's, and had become ostensible in cabals, combinations and factious proceedings, before general Macdowall had commenced his public outrages against the government. Mr. Petrie appears wholly to overlook the course of highly insubordinate, factious conduct pursued by that officer, without reserve, among those under his command in the progress of the year 1808; a course of which, as it was generally known, Mr. Petrie could not have been ignorant. And when general Macdowall went to a length no other man had ever ventured upon, in publicly insulting the government, Mr. Petrie gives the general order of that officer the mild epithet of disrespectful, is for passing it over without any exercise of severity, as he expresses it, to general Macdowall, and, in all the subsequent insults publicly offered to the government by the officers, he is utterly forgetful of his own declarations, that "insubordination may lead to the most fatal consequences, and that the discipline essential to the existence of the army cannot be upholden without a firm determination to resist and punish every appearance of disrespect to the public authority." He throughout extenuates the proceedings of the officers, whilst the language of his minute throws the chief blame on the government. Instead of hearing any more from him of the necessity of supporting the public authority and the discipline of the army, he appears to be uniformly for suffering every thing, and yielding every thing, rather than enter into contest with the officers, which as the general tendency of his opinions and disposition must have been known, could not fail to animate the disaffected. Perhaps it may be expected, that in justice to him, we should notice a distinction, introduced on this head in his statement; "that, if turbulence in the army was confined to a part, and did not extend to a majority, it was our duty to meet the case with exemplary punishment; but that, if the whole or a great majority was disaffected to government, the measures sir G. Barlow proposed were totally inapplicable." Upon Mr. Petrie's own reasoning he is censurable in not joining with government to suppress the earlier stages of insubordination, before it could be said that general disaffection existed; but in fact, the distinction here so broadly stated

terminates in this; that if the seditious in the army can only make their combination general enough, they must not be resisted; a principle which, if governments were to adopt, there must be an end of the supremacy of the civil power over the military. "The grievances of the army," a phrase become common among the officers, is a phrase repeatedly employed in Mr. Petrie's reasonings, and apparently with a degree of admission; but he enters into no explanation or discrimination touching those grievances. Now it is known that the unreasonable and inadmissible claims contained in the very improper memorial of the officers pressed on government by general Macdowall, made up at least a considerable part of their "grievances." These claims, as well on account of their nature, as because they were made in opposition to the acts of former governments in which Mr. Petrie had concurred, or to the acts of the court of directors themselves, it was the duty of Mr. Petrie openly to resist. Instead of seeming to tolerate their being set up, and remaining as grounds of complaint, he should have fairly and publicly expressed his disapprobation of them, in order clearly to inform the army of his sentiments on this material subject. He could not, to be consistent with himself, allow that the claims were founded; nor does it appear that he thought them so. He has subscribed to the Fort St. George letter of the 10th September, 1809, which states the army had no grievances; but there is an indiscriminating toleration and indulgence respecting "grievances," visible in his minute, very different from his style in October, 1807; and, in the temper and circumstances of the army very incongruous to his duty as a good member of government.

It cannot be doubted, that whatever Mr. Petrie's opinion of the proceedings of government towards the army might be, it was incumbent on him to use his utmost efforts to restrain their criminal excesses, especially when they were advancing to open insubordination and revolt. He has mentioned his endeavours with individual officers; and it would have been satisfactory to have seen something of his correspondence, and more of his proceedings on this subject; but we think this was not enough. In so great a crisis, it would have become a man in his high situation, and possessing influence, as he says himself, with officers, to have interposed with them more publicly and zealously for the prevention of the evils he feared. Delicately circumstanced as he was, it would have been proper and useful in him to have declared in a public minute his reprobation of insubordination and sedition; and of all agitations tending to them. From such an act, solemnly performed and made known by a man whom the army looked upon as friendly to them, some good would probably have resulted, and, at least, it would have been a defence against misrepresentation.

We think Mr. Petrie's conduct in council, and towards the court of directors, in relation to the discontents of the army, liable to objection. It does not appear that he fully debated at the board the measures there proposed; but he refers to private conversations with Sir G. Barlow. On such momentous subjects it was, on his own principles, his duty to state his opinions openly in council. Private conversations are no record; and such an ambiguous course of private objection and ostensible passiveness, leaves an opening for maintaining afterwards, according as events turn out, either that measures were opposed, or that they were acquiesced in. Upon the same principles that Mr. Petrie recorded his dissents to the measures of government against individuals, it was his business to enter his objections to the proceedings of government on great questions which involved the highest interests. Unless Sir G. Barlow's minute, written a year after the commencement of the army agitations, had, with Mr. Petrie's reply, produced explanations, the court of directors probably never would have known the opinions or the line he held respecting those subjects; but seeing his signature to all the letters relative to them from the government, without any counter-declaration, they would of course suppose he acted with his colleagues, unless subsequent censure from the court should have drawn forth exculpatory information from him; whereas he himself admits, "that the court will require to know the causes which have exposed the state to such dangers, and that he has an opinion of them very different from the president's."

3. We wish that Mr. Petrie had been so guarded in his conduct, as not to have left it liable to the construction of affording countenance to the factious opposers of government. Whilst it is allowed that members of government possess the right of maintaining, with decorous freedom, their conscientious opinions on public subjects, even when they differ from the majority, it is also to be granted, that however they may oppose particular measures, it is their duty to uphold the general authority and efficiency of government, because, when these are impaired, the ends of the institution of government itself are so far frustrated; and, in a time of party violence, and of disputes between the government and any portions of the community, dissentient members of that government ought to be very careful, that whilst they adhere to their own opinions, they do not by their conduct otherwise, throw weight into the scale of factious opposition.

We do not think Mr. Petrie has been sufficiently attentive to this material distinction. Supposing it even granted that the supporters of Mr. Sherson, of one party of Carnatic creditors; of general Macdowall and the subordinate officers, were all right as to their particular objects, yet, in going beyond those objects, in combining to revile and run down the government, with the views at length apparent, of effecting a change in the administration of it, they broke in upon the respect and reverence due to the ordinance of government, and acted injuriously to the public interests. No appearance should have been admitted from whence they or the public might imagine that all the members of the government did not decidedly reprobate all tendencies of this kind. But Mr. Petrie's, friendships and intimacies seem unfortunately to have been very much with the persons in opposition to the government, and to have been kept up after their opposition had become general and notorious. We do not say that he was to have given up his real opinion of the innocence of any individual, because government had thought him guilty; but certainly, after such individual had been publicly marked by the censure of government, and had, in consequence, been raised into popularity by the disaffected as a martyr to the injustice of government, it was Mr. Petrie's duty to abstain from whatever might be construed to countenance such a spirit of faction. But after the suspension of Mr. Sherson, and after his case had become a rallying point for the disaffected, we find, by Mr. Petrie's own account, that he is frequently and familiarly received at his house. Mr. Petrie says, one reason of this was, that he might obtain from Mr. Sherson himself, explanations concerning his accounts, which he (Mr. Petrie) was then investigating for his own satisfaction, after the grain committee and government had pronounced Mr. Sherson guilty. We cannot but doubt, in the first place, the propriety, under all existing circumstances, of a private examination of this kind between Mr. Petrie and the accused; but must not Mr. Petrie have been aware, that the public could not know of the reason assigned by him for seeing Mr. Sherson so frequently; and that the familiar reception of Mr. Sherson at his house would be interpreted as intended to give him the same countenance and support, which he had from a party, because under the disapprobation of government? So with respect to lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, major Boles, and captain Grant, of whom the first and last were suspended on the 1st May, and major Boles on the 31st January. Mr. Petrie, in admitting that these officers occasionally called upon him, says, that "all the objects of his communications with them was through their influence to allay the alarming ferment which was rapidly spreading from one station of the army to the other, &c." Now, as here again, the reception given to gentlemen, known to be in hostility to the government, might easily be misinterpreted by the army, so we must confess that it seems an unfortunate proceeding in Mr. Petrie to have chosen, for the purpose of allaying discontents in the army, officers whom the government found it necessary to suspend for insubordination or sedition; and against the first of whom, lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, Mr. Petrie, as we have seen before, had, on the 21st October, 1807, made very strong representations on account of insubordinate conduct; namely, that he had "placed himself in the character of a defender of the general interests of the company's army, and that he was eager to promote dangerous discussion; whence government were impressed with the strongest sense of the dangerous tendency of his inflammatory and factious proceedings." And afterwards in the same letter it is stated, "that the dangerous spirit of cabal in the army had been greatly inflamed by the impunity with which lieutenant-colonel Sentleger had hitherto been enabled to brave and insult the authority of government." (Mr. Petrie was then sensible that impunity added to insubordination,) "and that he was held up at the principal military stations as the champion of the rights of the army," &c. Into the defence of lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, which Mr. Petrie seems to adopt, against the charge on which he was suspended, we shall not here enter, as there will be another occasion to consider that charge, and the proofs by which it is established: but, passing over also the complimentary strain in which Mr. Petrie, in his minute, writes of that officer, we cannot avoid expressing our surprize at his quoting, with apparent satisfaction, what lieutenant-colonel Sentleger had stated to him as part of his defence; namely, "that he had endeavoured to discourage in the officers under his command, every idea of openly opposing the authority of government;" though it appears from Mr. Petrie's statement, that he understood this officer and nearly all those under his command, to have taken an active part in exclaiming against the measures relative to general Macdowall, &c. and had signed "certain inflammatory papers;" which is something of the same nature as the observation Mr. Petrie makes in behalf of colonel Capper and major Boles; that the remotest intention of creating a mutiny in the army, could not be imputed to those officers.

We certainly could have wished to have seen Mr. Petrie actively and ostensibly associating with men also of another description, known friends to order and obedience, for the purposes of ascertaining accurately, and of allaying the discontents of the army; but even when he learnt from

lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, "that a most dangerous combination existed in the southern army, "to resist the orders of government, and to insist on a redress of grievances," we do not find that he proceeded to communicate this information, most important as it was, to sir G. Barlow or his colleagues in the government.

We are indeed concerned to see, that Mr. Petrie's defence of himself, in answer to sir G. Barlow, does not exhibit him as living in habits of private intimacy and confidential communication with any description of persons but such as were in a state of hostility to the government, both in the civil and military lines of the service. And on the whole of this head, so far are we from thinking with the authors of the dissents, that Mr. Petrie has refuted the accusations of sir G. Barlow, that we are of opinion the facts he has admitted, and very unsatisfactorily explained, establish a great deal; that his house was open to the malcontents (even after sir G. Barlow's admonition, though he might not subsequently have asked suspended servants to come to it;) that he was considered as a friend by all those of that description whose names are prominent in that time of commotion; and it must be evident, that in a community violently inflamed by the spirit of party and faction, in which the course held by the second member of the government could not be unobserved, his maintenance of opinions which were also held by those hostile to sir G. Barlow, and his opposition to the same measures of government which they likewise opposed, might, without much greater precaution than he used, be naturally interpreted by the different parties united against the government, as a support and encouragement to their cause.

Some of the dissents lay much stress on the declaration of lord Minto, that in doing justice to sir G. Barlow and the gentlemen who supported him, he did not mean to reflect on the conduct of Mr. Petrie; but that he thought the conduct of Mr. Petrie wrong, is evident, both from his own opposite course, and from the passage of his letter immediately following the one alluded to; wherein he says, "In a case of crisis, however, when to place the matter on a broad and general ground, a strong government might reasonably be accounted essential (if I may use that phrase) to the safety of the commonwealth, the dissent of a member of council so considerable in station, character, and talents, must give additional value to the useful and efficient support which sir G. Barlow and the public cause have derived from Mr. Oakes and Mr. Casamaijor."

We, therefore, on the whole of this article, must express our full persuasion, that the conduct held by Mr. Petrie could not but have been as sir G. Barlow has stated, "productive of serious impediment to the administration of the affairs of government and of injury to the public interests;" and this in a way and to an extent which the maintenance of his own opinions needed not have proceeded, and for which his right to maintain those opinions forms no valid excuse.

4. The last topic to which we shall advert, is the refusal of Mr. Petrie to sign the address, framed by a respectable part of the inhabitants of Madras, to sir G. Barlow.

In order to form a correct judgment on this subject, we must look to the general state of affairs under the Fort St. George presidency, at the time when the address was proposed, and to the import of the address itself.

Mr. Petrie, it appears, refused to sign the address on the 30th July. At that time the danger was almost at its highest point. It is an essential mistatement which is made in Mr. Petrie's defence, "that the army had then manifested unequivocal proofs of returning subordination and obedience." The facts stated in this paper, and the most authentic documents concerning the progress of the revolt, prove the contrary. Colonel Malcolm had but a little before returned from his unsuccessful mission to Masulipatam. On the 30th July, the garrison of Seringapatam broke out into open rebellion. On the 3d August, colonel Close was driven from Hydrabad. The action with the battalions from Chittledroog, the seizure of the public treasure in the northern circars, the mutiny at Ellore, the march of the Jaulnah force towards the presidency, all happened after the 30th July; and the first indication of returning obedience, which was the submission of the Hydrabad force, is dated the 11th August, and could not have reached the presidency till the 16th or 17th. Thus a great part of the army was in open rebellion. The allegiance of the rest was at least questionable.

In times of public peril, the mode of addressing the established government with professions of loyalty and support is usual and natural. It is proper in governments, at such times, to accept and even to wish for such testimonies of attachment. Some of the most respectable of the inhabitants of Madras, in a crisis big with danger to that presidency and to India, thought it their duty to adopt a measure of this kind. The chief justice, a man next in rank to the governor, and no less distinguished by his character than by his station, the two junior members of council, the commander-in-chief of the army, and other conspicuous persons took the lead. The address went into no discussion of the measures of government. It only expressed, on the part of the subscribers, a disapprobation of the insubordination that had recently shown itself among the officers of the company's army, so dangerous in its tendency, with

assurances of support to the interests of legal government, and a readiness to devote life and fortune to the maintenance of the public tranquillity.

We would ask, whether, in the state of things at that moment, when the "sword of revolt" was unsheathed, and the flames of civil war likely to be kindled throughout the country, every man, and especially every public man, was not called to take his line? whether neutrality was any longer consistent with duty?— whether any loyal man could possibly take the side of opposition to lawful authority? and whether the address pledged to more than the support of the government by law established, and resistance to the principles of insubordination and disobedience?

On what grounds then did Mr. Petrie refuse to become a party to this address? He thought "it might increase irritation, and produce an unfavourable effect on the disposition on the army, which had then manifested unequivocal proofs of returning subordination and obedience, and that the wounds were beginning to heal." This reason had not, as already shown, the least foundation; there were not any symptoms of returning subordination nor of begun amendment. The principal reason, therefore, assigned by Mr. Petrie, wholly fails. He thought also "that such a public manifestation of the sentiments of a part of the settlement, so strongly expressed, (the expressions are in our opinion, remarkably temperate)—"could do no possible good, but might add to the difficulties which still opposed the recalling a considerable part of the officers to their duty." As it appears from various documents that the officers were conscious they were acting a most criminal part, it is far more probable that the public erection of a standard of duty and loyalty must have struck them with a deeper sense of their criminality, and made their perseverance harder to themselves. The difficulties still "opposing the recal of many of the officers to their duty," is an idea growing out of the proceeding groundless supposition of "unequivocal proofs of returning subordination," and falls with it. What means or what probability appeared of recalling the officers, then remained, unless to convince them that they had not the power of overawing and controlling the government, which they believed themselves to possess? That only a part of the settlement signed the address—(many more might perhaps have signed it if Mr. Petrie had set an example)—is, in our opinion, an unsound argument, although it is adopted in some of the dissents; for it is precisely in times of faction and division that such addresses are pertinent. But does the duty of supporting legal government, depend on the numbers that may concur in that object? The duty surely attaches to every individual, whether he has many or few to act with him; and if, on the occasion in question, but few were found, the greater was their honour, whilst those who refused to join them, were in our opinion highly culpable. Mr. Petrie, in the way of objection, alludes to "the means of obtaining signatures; and one of the dissents explains this as if the author of it has been an eye-witness, by saying the address was carried from house to house" by an officer whom he is pleased to stigmatise, and who, according to him, "flattered and threatened as he judged most likely to prevail;—to some he held forth promises of the governor's favour;—others he threatened with his highest displeasure." On this passage we would observe, that there is not the least vestige of authority for it in the public records, which the honourable writer himself has made the only standard by which our decision should be regulated; nor is it even supported by the slightest shadow of that "ex parte evidence" which he obverves, "should not be implicitly believed:" and we cannot say how unwarrantable appears to us the whole of this attack not only upon a very deserving officer, to whose character we have already done some justice, but on the highly respectable individuals who signed the address, and indeed on the loyal measure of standing forth in defence of lawful government. This honourable writer further says, "that if any good consequence could have been expected from an address, a meeting should have been called, and the address voted publicly." This certainly would have been a most pernicious proceeding. We apprehend it was perfectly competent to any individuals, to set their names to a paper promising support to the constitutional authority at a time when it was threatened with subversion, but for the inhabitants of Madras to assemble collectively in order to debate or discuss any of the measures of government respecting the army, would have been to assume a very dangerous power to which they had not the least right, and to open a theatre for all the clamours and abuse of faction, to the still deeper injury of government. Or if, in such an assembly, it were proposed to vote upon any question, the real import of which, however worded, would be whether the legal government should be supported or not, it would be something like treason. Mr. Petrie has appealed to the result of the address, which he says, instead of strengthening the hands of government, restoring harmony, mutual confidence, &c. &c. increased animosity and contention. This mode of arguing from consequences, (to which he has elsewhere objected), seems to require effects from the measure which it never could be expected to produce. The disaffected were not likely to be reclaimed by the address; nor

is it a wonder that those whose policy it was to await events without taking a decided part, still wished to find excuses for not committing themselves, and at the same time to have their refusal to sign the address considered as no decision against the government. But whatever real friends of government concurred in the refusal, were injudicious friends, and the conduct of all these descriptions of persons does not impeach the propriety of the measure of an address, nor the mode in which it was conducted, by obtaining signatures, being indeed the only mode that was open. It was still a noble testimony to the principles of order and loyalty, and shewed a band of the very best subjects under that government to be devoted to its support.

If there was a want of attention to Mr. Petrie, as he complains, in not first consulting him upon the measure, it lay with the movers in it to answer that minor objection, which certainly could weigh but little in a question of so important a nature. It is urged in Mr. Petrie's defence, that though he refused to sign the address, yet he afterwards stated that, " if the government in council, or the general sense, attached any beneficial importance to the public interests, or that it could effect the peace of the settlement, mislead any one, or prevent mischief, it would be his duty to yield his opinion to theirs, and affix his name." But the value and importance of Mr. Petrie's signature depended on its being spontaneous. He had, " after mature and serious consideration," stated his reasons why " he could not, with propriety, give the address his " signature ;" and he still " thought his erasons just." A signature affixed at the desire of government, under all these circumstances, which could not be unknown, would have been deemed an official act, not the offspring of his own judgment and inclination, and would place the government in the light of soliciting a countenance, which, given in that way, would, after all, do them little or no good. We do not, therefore, wonder that sir G. Barlow avoided going into the subject with Mr. Petrie, and left him to act according to his own judgment. The offer of Mr. Petrie, as above quoted, seems, however, to indicate some apprehension, at least, in his mind, that his signature might be of importance; and we find it very difficult to conceive that he must not have been sensible a declaration like that contained in the address, voluntarily made by him in conjunction with other distinguished characters, would have produced a beneficial effect upon the minds of the officers.

At any rate, being called to it as he was, he had this plain question before him —whether he, the second member of the government, should appear to the army and to the world as one of those determined and pledged to support the lawful government against insubordination, or as one of those who declined to give such a pledge, and to make such a declaration. He chose to appear in the latter class; and let it be recollected this was at a crisis when the officers were in actual rebellion against the government, and civil factions were also opposed to it. Let it be recollected also, that Mr. Petrie excused his not entering any dissent to certain measures which were supposed to have had an influence in producing the Vellore mutiny, because he would not have it appear there was any difference among the members of government at so critical a conjuncture. Must he not then have been aware of constructions unfavourable to government, which would be put on his present conduct? What was the lowest interpretation that would be made of this proceeding by the officers? We conceive this—that he was not to be considered as acting with the government in their principles or measures respecting the army; that he bore with all the officers had done, even to the horrible crime of turning their arms against the government, and seizing the forts and treasures of the public; that he did not shut out treaty with them upon the basis of their own demands, which included restoration of officers dismissed for sedition, &c. to which treaty a general amnesty must, of course, be preliminary; that, therefore, he was not disposed to resort to the military means (ample as they were,) which government had for its own protection; but, in short, looked only to a present compromise, or rather treaty, of such kind as could be obtained, including probably a reference to the arrival and decisions of lord Minto, who had already declared himself against the whole system of the officers, or a reference, concerning points already in effect yielded, to the court of directors, who would thus be brought into the greatest embarrassment, whilst it would have left the Fort St. George government in the most humiliated state, and the officers full leisure to consolidate their dangerous ascendancy.

This course was really, according to all the explanations of Mr. Petrie himself, the one for which he was an advocate: but, in the temper and state of the army, it appears to us that it necessarily involved an abandonment of the just principles of all government, of the authority, credit, and efficiency of the Madras government, of the proper control of the army in future, and thence an abandonment of the highest interests of British India.

We therefore thought, and still think, that Mr. Petrie essentially failed on this important occasion, in the duty which

of directors were consequently called upon to mark publicly and strongly their disapprobation of conduct like his; and that on this and the other grounds which have been stated in the preceding pages, it was just and proper to remove Mr. Petrie from standing in succession to the government, and from the seat he held in the council of the Fort St. George presidency.

We have the honour to be, Gentlmen,

Your most obedient, humble Servants,

(Signed) C. GRANT.
W. ASTELL.
C. MILLS.
A. ROBARTS.
G. SMITH.
R. C. PLOWDEN.
C. MARJORIBANKS.
I. INGLIS.
I. BEBB.
G. A. ROBINSON.

East India-House.
10th Sept. 1810.

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, the 4th of December, 1809;

The court pursuant to notice of the 1st instant, taking into consideration what further proceedings may be proper, respecting the officers lately suspended at Fort St. George;

And the under-mentioned particulars being read; viz.

The court's military letter to Madras, dated the 29th September, 1809:

The military letter from Madras, to the secret committee, dated 13th May, 1809:

* Sir George Barlow's minute, dated 1st May:

A memorial, purporting to be from several officers of the Madras establishment to the governor-general, lord Minto, dated January, 1809:

An address from do. to major Thomas Boles:

It was, on a motion,

Resolved, by the ballot, THAT the court having, conformably to the intention expressed in the military letter of 29th September last to Fort St. George, resumed the consideration of the case of certain officers suspended from the service by that government, on the grounds stated in their secret letter of 13th May, 1809, are of opinion,

That the offences with which those officers are charged, are of the most dangerous and criminal nature, subversive of all legitimate authority, and ought always to receive the severest punishment which the court of directors can inflict; since lenity in such a case to individuals, would prove most detrimental and pernicious to the general interests of the army, the Indian governments, and the nation.

That in the circumstances in which the government of Fort St. George were placed, and under the conviction they had from evidences before them, the measures they adopted with respect to those officers were proper and necessary.

That those evidences, so far as they are brought before the court, do appear clearly to establish the guilt of the different parties to whom they related, and to show them worthy of dismission.

That it is therefore proper to proceed to the act of dismission; and that, agreeably to the standing rule of the service, which requires notice of a motion of a dismission, the court do, on a future day, proceed to the said act; namely, the dismission of lieutenant colonel St. Leger, major de Morgan, captain Marshall, captain Grant, and lieutenant colonel Martin; and in the mean time, that lieutenant colonel Martin, now at home who was equally implicated, and upon the same evidence in the offence for which captain Marshall was suspended, who would have been suspended in like manner had he been in India, and whom the Fort George government recommend it to the court to dismiss, with the other officers, be, until the final consideration of their case comes on, suspended as they are from the company's service.

East India House, 13th Dec. 1809.

To the honourable the Court of Directors.

Gentlemen,

We dissent from the resolutions of the court, passed on Tuesday the 5th instant, on the subject of the officers suspended by the Madras government; viz.

Lieutenant-colonel the honourable Arthur St. Leger:

Major John de Morgan:

Captain James Grant, and

Captain Josiah Marshall; and on the subject of lieutenant-colonel George Martin, whom the said government have recommended for dismission from the company's service:—

Because, to our astonishment and grief, the said resolution pronounces on the guilt of those officers, and condemns them without a trial or a hearing, and pledges the court "on a future day to proceed to the act of their dismission; and it appears to us, that the dismission of any officer from the service of the company, without bringing him to trial by a court martial, or hearing him in his defence, or making to him a communication of the charge preferred against him, and affording him an opportunity of repelling or answering it, would be a violation of the first and most sacred principle of justice, and an act of which we believe, no example is to be found, either in the records of the East India company, or in the annals of the British nation; and in deprecating which, we only

* For this, and other documents, vide State Papers of the preceding volume of the Register.

claim, on behalf of meritorious and distinguished officers of our army, a privilege which the laws of England accord to the meanest criminal.

Because, such a procedure adopted, and founded on ex parte evidence, obtained and transmitted by the Madras government at a period of universal ferment and agitation, would tend to confirm, rather than to allay the existing animosity between that government and the army; and to weaken that confidence on the impartial justice of the court of directors, which they must at all times wish to cherish, and which was perhaps never of more importance than at the present moment.

Because, nothing is to be gained, and in our apprehension, the most serious evils to be hazarded, by not waiting to hear what the officers accused may have to offer in their defence, since there is every reason to believe that four of them are now on their passage home, and the fifth, namely, lieutenant colonel Martin, is already and has been for several months in England; and of course it has so long been, and still is, in the option of the court to inform him of the crime with which he is charged, and to hear him in his defence.

Because, even admitting that all stated in the last dispatches from Madras against the said officers, were to be proved; it is, we conceive, impossible to say that they can offer nothing in palliation of their misconduct, or that would not be worthy of the consideration of the court, in determining their judgment upon it.

Because, it is possible also, that circumstances may have occurred in India, subsequent to the date of the last dispatches, that may have induced the governments both of Madras and Bengal, to adopt healing measures, or measures of conciliation and lenity towards the misguided officers in general; in which case, the communication of such measures arriving subsequent to the court's having passed the sentence of dismission, would involve the court in great embarrassment, and subject them to the charge of having acted with great precipitation, as well as with extreme rigour.

Because, admitting as we do in the fullest sense, that the court of directors, as representatives of the East India company, have, indisputably a legal power to dismiss officers from the service of the company without bringing them to trial by court martial, we are of opinion, that it is a power, the exercise of which is justifiable only in cases of extreme necessity; of enormous guilt, established and proved on the clearest and most incontrovertible evidence; and above all we contend that if, in such extreme cases, public expediency requires that a company's officer should be precluded from the privilege of being tried by his peers, it becomes in consequence a still more sacred duty not to deprive him of his remaining privilege, a full and impartial hearing: but if ever a precedent should be established, for deciding on the honour and characters of officers, and consigning them to degradation and ruin without either a trial or hearing, we are of opinion, that from that moment there will no longer exist the best security for the attachment and confidence of that body of men, to whose brave and able exertions we have been principally indebted for all we have acquired in India, and on whom we still greatly depend for its preservation.

Upon these grounds, we desire to record our dissent from the resolution in question, and earnestly deprecate its being carried into effect; first, in the hope of inducing the court to defer any actual proceeding upon it, until the officers shall have arrived in this country, and been heard in their defence; and secondly, if we should fail in that hope, to exonerate ourselves from any responsibility for the consequences that may result from it to the interests of the company, or to the credit of the court of directors.

(Signed) J. HUDDLESTON,
J. PATTISON.

To the honourable the Court of Directors.

DISSENT.

Gentlemen,

Considering it my duty to record my dissent from such resolutions as those which, on principles of public justice, I have vainly endeavoured to oppose, I hereby protest against the resolution carried by the ballot on the 5th; declaring that the measures adopted by the government of Fort St. George, with respect to certain officers of that establishment, were proper and necessary: that certain evidences, stated on the dispatches of the government of Fort St. George, do appear clearly to establish the guilt of the different parties to whom they relate; and to shew them worthy of dismission.—It is therefore proper to proceed, on a future day, to the act of dimissing lieutenant-colonel St. Leger, major De Morgan, captain Marshall, captain Grant, and lieutenant-colonel Martin; and suspending lieutenant colonel Martin from the service until the final consideration of the case comes on.

I protest against the premature declaration of the propriety and necessity of the measures adopted by the government of Madras, and against proceeding to the act of dismissing officers on the conviction which that government had received from the evidence before them.

1st.—Because such declaration and procedure are acts of confidence in the wisdom of that government, not warranted by any documents in the possession of the court.

2dly.—Because I consider the conduct of the government of Fort St. George to have been mainly productive of that irritation, approaching to frenzy, which led to the late acts of insubordination in the army under that presidency ;

1st.—By their haughty and contemptuous rejection of a respectful memorial, addressed to this court by certain officers commanding corps, which memorial, although reasoned on by the government of Madras, in proof of the misconduct of the officers, has hitherto been absolutely suppressed, or withheld from the official knowledge of this court.

2dly.—By the injustice of their suspension of lieutenant-colonel Capper, and major Boles, acts as crude and unsound in their principles, as rash and unnecessary in their application.

3dly.—I dissent, because, with the exception of one misapplied and ill-timed example, namely, the explanatory order regarding lieutenant-colonel Munro's report, which, if published at the proper time, might have tranquillized the whole army, no one instance occurs, from the beginning to the end of their dispatches, of the due exercise of authority being tempered by that spirit of conciliation, which, by respecting others, ensures respect for itself.

And finally, because a government, deficient in that essential qualification, more justly invites the consideration of radical reform, than an act of unqualified, unnecessary, and in my opinion, most dangerous confidence.

I dissent from the resolution, which declares it to be proper to proceed to the act of dismissing the officers who have been suspended by the government of Madras.

1st.—Because, although I perfectly concur in the opinion of the court, as to the dangerous and criminal nature of the offences with which these officers are charged, and admit the necessity for inflicting on all those against whom such offences shall be substantiated, the severest punishment which the court of directors can inflict, I yet consider any final determination on the case of the suspended officers, until they shall have been heard in their defence, to be at direct variance with the fundamental and immutable principles of justice.

2dly.—Because the measure of extending to the persons suspended by the government of Madras, under their order of the 1st May, 1809, this common privilege of the most common malefactor, while it obviates the evils, and possible injustice of precipitate judgment, has the advantage of being attended with no possible inconvenience.

3dly.—Because, unless the court intends to avow a distrust of the propriety of its future deliberation, there is absolutely no pretext, for precipitating decision in this case; sufficient confidence in the Madras government having been already marked by the unqualified approbation of the preliminary measure adopted on the ground stated in these dispatches, the example being made, and the suspension standing enforced, so that nothing but a deliberate act of the court can restore the suspended officers to the service.

4thly.—Because the very tenor of the resolution, in which the court records its opinion, "that the evidences, so far as they are brought before the court," show those officers worthy of dismission, admits the possible deficiency of the information, on which it assumes the guilt of the parties to be clearly established.

5thly.—Because the ascertained suppression of the memorial, addressed to this court by certain officers commanding corps, in December, 1808, confer on another document, well known to this court (although not officially before it) an importance which it could not otherwise claim; and the evidence that document presents of the absence of all foundation in fact for the supposition on which lieutenant-colonel Robert Bell was removed from all military charge, strengthens and extends the inference to be drawn from the ascertained case of suppression, namely, that this court is not in possession of all the facts which are requisite to an impartial decision.

6thly.—Because the delay of final decision, until the accused parties can be heard in answer to the charge against them, is consistent with the principle of the standing rule of the court alluded to in the resolution, which, anticipating the possible effects of rash and precipitate decision, has wisely provided a previous notice of any motion for dismission from the company's service.

(Signed) J. Bannerman.

India House,
15th December, 1809.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, 4th April, 1810, James Pattison, esq. a member of the court, pursuant to the notice given by him on the 28th ult. made the following motion :—

"That the spirit of the general orders issued by lord Minto to the Madras army, in date of the 25th September, it is hoped, may produce the most salutary effects, if a corresponding sentiment is evinced by the Court of Directors :

"That the selection by lord Minto of three officers only for trial, on the principle that, from their command of stations, and high rank, the influence of their example was productive of the greatest mischief; while an option is given to eighteen officers, deeply implicated in the rebellion, one of whom was actually taken with arms in his hands, to take their trial or quit the service,

and a general amnesty is extended to all the other officers involved in the late troubles after the 1st May; evidently proves, that, in his lordship's view of this truly important question, these examples of severity are sufficient for the attainment of his declared object, to blend justice with the utmost extension of mercy:

"That the officers, who long before the commencement of the mutiny were sent home by the Madras government under suspension, and whose case, from the date of that act, is out of the reach of the general amnesty, even if their jealous sense of honour could admit of their consent to be so shattered, are placed in so peculiar a situation as to demand the immediate attention of the court, inasmuch as the highest degree of guilt that could possibly attach to them, even if the charges brought against them could be substantiated by incontrovertible evidence, would fall short, infinitely short, of the dreadful crime of rebellion, in which the whole body of officers were involved, who are absolved and protected by the amnesty:

"That the suspension of these officers being one of the alleged causes of discontent in the Madras army, the removal of it would be attended with the most beneficial effects, and the opportunity to show a spirit of conciliation on the part of the court, cannot better present itself, than in the answer to the dispatches announcing the termination of the late unnatural rebellion, especially as no act of the court can now be considered in any other light than as the spontaneous exercise of their judgment, uninfluenced by fear or necessity, the rebellion having been put down by the authority of the legal government of India, without a shadow of concession or stipulation:

"In this situation of things, the court, wishing to draw the curtain over every transaction that may by any inference be held to bear upon the late lamentable events, and desirous, as far as shall be possible, that the whole may be buried in oblivion, is willing to waive all investigation of the respective cases of the suspended officers; to restore them to the service; and to permit them to return to their regiments without prejudice to their rank, and to draw their regimental allowances from the date of their embarkation for India:"

"It is therefore resolved,

"That the following officers be restored to the service, as above; viz.—The honourable colonel Sentleger, colonel Martin, major de Morgan, captain Marshall, captain Grant, colonel Capper, and major Boles; and that the above resolutions be communicated to them severally by the secretary."

Extract general instructions to Bengal, dated 29th March 1774, was read;

It was then moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "that," in order to introduce, in lieu thereof, the following words; viz.

"It is of vital and essential importance to the existence both of the British empire in India and of the East India company, to maintain the authority and supremacy of the governments there, over the armies belonging to them, and over all military men collectively and individually:—that the late rebellion of the officers of the Madras army, which placed the British power and interests in India in the most imminent peril of destruction, was the progress and result of discontent, insubordination, and sedition, produced and fomented among the officers by illegal combinations and inflammatory writings:—That all acts of this kind by military men are of a nature most criminal, and merit the strongest displeasure and reprobation of the court; and especially that the conduct of men, who by deliberate acts excite others to insubordination and resistance of lawful authority, is more deeply guilty than that of many officers, who, at length, transported by the violence of passions thus raised, went along with the general torrent:—That certain officers of the Madras establishment, namely, colonels Sentleger, Boles and Martin, major de Morgan, and captains Grant and Marshall, were charged by the Madras government, upon direct evidence, to have been parties and instigators in the measures which produced insubordination, disaffection, and resistance among the officers of the Madras army; and upon those charges were suspended by the government from the company's service, the government having also recommended to the court to dismiss the said officers:—That the court of directors have confirmed the said suspension, and declared to the Madras government an intention of going, with solemn deliberation and impartiality, into an examination and final decision on the whole of the case of the said officers; and that therefore to depart now from this declared intention, and to reinstate them, even without examination, in the service, would be a fatal measure, pregnant with the most dangerous consequences to the authority of the Indian government, the discipline and subordination of the company's officers, inasmuch as it would shew, that men removed from the service for the greatest crime that a soldier can commit, resistance to the government under whom he serves, may, by solicitation and influence at home, obtain, even without a trial, restoration to his former rank in that service; and that after such a death-blow to the authority and supremacy of the Indian governments, all hopes and even attempts on their part to contain the military within due bounds must be given up:—That the amnesty extended by lord Minto to many officers concerned in the revolt, has not yet been sanctioned or considered by the court, and before it is so, cannot be pleaded as an example on which

the court should act:—That had it even been approved by the court, it furnishes no arguments for extending an amnesty to the suspended officers, because, if they are guilty, they are guilty as principals and not as accessaries, and lord Minto has in his proceeding distinguished between these classes, having appointed a certain number of officers, whom he regarded as principals, to be put on their trials:—That, moreover, he has expressly limited his amnesty to offences committed after the 1st May, 1809, on which day the officers in question were suspended for acts done before that period:—That amnesty supposes guilt, whereas the suspended officers have pleaded innocence, and desired investigation; that this investigation is the more necessary, because no two of their cases are alike, and therefore, the only way of determining justly upon them is, to examine each of them separately, and this after all the information to be expected from India on the subject, and on the seditious proceedings of the Madras officers; part of which information may be looked for by the next fleet, and others, from the further inquiries proposed by lord Minto, are before the court.

"That upon all these considerations, it is the opinion of this court. That the design the court have already notified, of going into a deliberate and thorough investigation of the case of each of those officers respectively, should on no account be departed from; and that, as soon as the great pressure of business, incident to this season of the year, and now particularly heavy, will permit, they will proceed to the said examination."

It was then moved, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question."

And the court's resolution of the 5th December last, being read;

The said proposed amendment was withdrawn by consent of the court.

The previous question was then moved; viz.

"That the original motion be now put:"

And the same being accordingly put by the ballot:

It passed in the negative.

To the honourable the Court of Directors of the East India company.

Gentlemen,

We dissent from the resolution of the court of the 4th instant, by which the previous question was carried, upon the motion for restoring to the company's service the following officers, viz.

Lieutenant-colonel the hon. Arthur Sentleger, lieutenant-colonel George Martin, major John De Morgan, captain James Grant, captain Josiah Marshall, lieutenant-colonel Capper, and major Boles;—

1. Because six of those officers were by the Madras government deprived of their stations, and suspended from the company's service, and the seventh (lieutenant-colonel George Martin) recommended for dismission from the service without a trial or a hearing, or the communication to them of any charge, in violation of the first and most sacred principle of justice, and equally in violation of the express orders of the court of directors declared on various occasions, and especially in the following article of their general instructions to the government general, dated the 27th March, 1774:—

"Article 20.—If any of the company's servants, civil or military, except the members of our board of trade, whom we do not make liable to your suspension, shall at any time be suspended by you from the execution of his office, or any vacancy shall happen by resignation or death, it is our order and direction that the person next in rank, office, or rotation, be appointed to supply such vacancy in our civil or military service, until our pleasure shall be known. We also further direct that, before the removal of any company's servant from any office, the party be made acquainted in writing with the accusation preferred against him; that he be summoned to make his defence, having a reasonable time allowed for that purpose; and that you proceed on all such occasions with the greatest tenderness and circumspection: And we further direct, that all such charges made before you against any of our servants in your department, and all proceedings thereon, be regularly entered upon your consultations, and with them transmitted to us."

2. Because this violent procedure on the part of the Madras government (and particularly the suspension of major Boles,) with the removal in the same summary manner of many other distinguished officers from their commands, essentially contributed to produce that general irritation in the army, which progressively led to the guilty determination of attempting to obtain redress by force of arms; an attempt the criminality of which nothing can even palliate, and in the suppression of which, all the measures of the Madras government have our fullest approbation; but we think that neither wisdom nor impartial justice requiring of us to shut our eyes to the causes which led to it, and the acts in question having been among the principal of those causes, the measure we recommended "would," (as it stated in the rejected proposition,) "be attended with the most beneficial effects; and the opportunity to shew a spirit of conciliation on the part of the court cannot better present itself than in the answer to the dispatches announcing the termination of the late unnatural rebellion, especially as no act of the court can now be considered in any other light than as the spontaneous exercise of their judgment, uninfluenced by fear or necessity, the rebellion having been put down by the autho-

rity of the legal government in India, without a shadow of concession or stipulation."

3. Because the court of directors, at the recommendation of the committee of correspondence, enforced by the honourable chairman, agreed to paragraphs in a military letter to the Madras government, dated 15th September last, which expressed the fullest approbation of their conduct in the suspensions and removals of the 1st May, and confirmed indiscriminately all their measures, as the court had done before, of every preceding step taken by that government since the commencement of the agitations, with the single qualification in favour of colonel Capper and major Boles, whose suspension the court had directed to be taken off, being of opinion that, as those officers were placed in a situation of difficulty, their removal from office would have been a sufficient punishment; the court themselves, however, now suspended major Boles, (on grounds which we shall hereafter advert to;) and, in consequence of the recommendation of the Madras government respecting lieutenant-colonel Martin, they suspended that officer, in order to put him on a footing with the rest of the suspended officers. We are aware that, for this indiscriminate approbation given to the proceedings of the Madras government, may be urged the expediency of affording that government the fullest support under the difficulties with which it was surrounded; but looking forward to the future character of our own proceedings, we respectfully submit it to the court that, after having heard and even acted upon the ex parte statements against the officers by the Madras government, impartial justice exacted of us the same readiness to hear their defence, especially when it was considered how long they had already suffered the severe punishment of suspension from the service, with the privation of all emolument. Whether the suspended officers have reason to complain upon that score, we shall submit to the candid judgment of the court.

4. Because, so long ago as the 5th December last, the honourable chairman considered the cases of the suspended officers so fully in the possession of the court, and any further information regarding them so far from necessary, that he brought forward in court a proposition which, in the original draft, we believe, extended to their dismission from the service, and the earnest deprecation of so extreme a measure, by several members, on the ground that all the accused were absent except lieutenant-colonel Martin, and he, though in England, unconscious and uninformed of any accusation against him, could not prevail with the honourable chairman to relax any further than to substitute for immediate dismission, a resolution pledging the court to "proceed to that act on a future day," and in the meantime placing in a state of suspension lieutenant-colonel Martin, whom the Madras government had recommended to the court to dismiss with the other officers. We shall only here make two observations, of the many which must instantly occur to the mind, on examining the extraordinary structure of this resolution, its positions, and the inferences and deductions forced from them. We are confident it cannot be read without its being perceived that the word "charged" is made use of, and relied on precisely, as if its signification were synonymous with that of the word "convicted;" and from the serious character of the offences imputed, (on which it enlarges in very solemn terms) it virtually and most obviously draws the conclusion, that they ought to be condemned without a hearing. The resolution then proceeds to apologize in behalf of the Madras government, for the summary violence of their procedure towards the accused officers, by stating, that "in the circumstances in which the government were placed, and under the conviction which they had, from evidences before them, the measures they adopted with respect to those officers, were proper and "necessary." This apology for the Madras government may be admitted, in extenuation of the violence of their conduct, in respect to all the removed and suspended officers except lieutenant-colonel Martin, from whom, as he was in England, they could have nothing to fear; but it would be insulting the understanding of the court, to ask how the circumstances, in which the Madras government were placed, could apply in our justification, or where we could have looked for any, had we followed their example. Soon after the resolution in question had passed, a circumstance occurred, which must, we hope, have been highly gratifying to the honourable chairman, and have made him sensible from what bitter regret he had been saved, by those members of the court who had opposed his wish to proceed to the immediate dismission of the suspended officers. Lieutenant-colonel Martin, informed of the danger he had been in, (probably through the kindness of some friend, who thought that previous to his dismission from the service, he ought at least to know that he was accused,) made a respectful application to the court for information of the charge or accusation preferred against him; he was accordingly furnished with it, and in consequence delivered in as ample a refutation of the charge as the nature of the case could possibly admit. A Portuguese monthly writer in the office of the military board, had deposed on oath before sir George Barlow, that a copy of the letter, or intended letter, from the officers to lord Minto was, he believed, in the hand-writing of lieutenant-colonel Martin. On this evidence, which must be allowed to be the most fallible of all descriptions of evi-

dence, belief as to hand-writing, taken in an examination, of which it may be safely presumed the exclusive object was, not the discovery of innocence, at which no one was present to offer any explanation, put any question, or elicit any fact or circumstance in favour of the accused, the Madras government recommended it to the court of directors to dismiss lieutenant-colonel Martin from the service. That officer in his defence, made before a magistrate a solemn affidavit to the absolute falsehood of the charge, denying that any copy of the paper in question in his hand-writing, had ever been in the military board office, or any where else; and he has since declared himself ready also to make oath, that he never signed or subscribed to that paper; and, as a collateral evidence of the truth of the denial, he has exhibited a paper, which he avers, and is ready to make oath, was the identical paper which the person who gave the evidence saw in the military office, and must have mistaken for a copy, or the draft of the intended letter from the officers to lord Minto; and he avers it to be the draft or a rough copy of that very letter or memorial from the Madras officers to the court of directors, which sir George Barlow so unhappily refused to receive and forward to them, and the reception and transmission of which, we sincerely believe, would have determined the officers to wait patiently and submissively the decision of the superior authorities in England.

5. Because the foregoing is, we are persuaded, a correct statement of the case of lieutenant-colonel George Martin, and we are truly concerned to be able to add, that although four months have elapsed since he delivered in this defence to the only charge exhibited against him, no notice whatever has been taken of it, nor further proceeding had respecting him, and in respect to the other suspended officers, the result of our having given colonel Martin an opportunity to meet the charge against him, has not obtained for them the same justice.

6. Because upwards of two months have elapsed since three of those officers, namely, lieutenant-colonel the honourable Arthur Sentleger, major Boles, and captain Josiah Marshall, arrived in this country to hear the unlooked-for intelligence, that on the ex-parte statements of their accuser, their suspension from the service had been approved by that body, on whose equal and impartial justice they had implicitly relied for redress. After announcing their arrival, each of them delivered in a memorial to the court, respectfully soliciting to be furnished with information of the charges exhibited against him, and to be heard in his defence, and expressing the utmost confidence that he should be able to satisfy the court of his innocence. On the reading of one of those applications, the honourable chairman said, that he supposed the court would make no distinction in favour of any individual of the suspended officers, and emphatically added, that he should in a few days (or, soon) bring again their case under the consideration of the court, agreeably to the resolution of the 5th December, namely, the resolution to proceed to the act of their dismission, to which we have above so particularly alluded. Here we conceive the honourable chairman gave another irrefragable proof, that he considered the cases of the suspended officers to be fully and completely before the court, and did not look for any further light or information regarding them; it was therefore with amazement, as well as regret, that at the late general court held on the 25th ultimo, when an officer of high rank, who has himself passed an honourable and distinguished career in our service, offered, in his capacity of a proprietor of India stock, a few words expressive of his concern for the situation of the suspended officers, and his wish to know the reason of the delay in taking up their case. We say, it was with amazement and regret that we heard the honourable chairman's reply, in which he stated, as causes for the delay, his expectation of further information on the cases of the suspended officers, and the variety and importance of the subjects that had of late occupied the time and attention of the court. The same reasons for the delay were urged by the honourable chairman in the late discussion in court, and we cannot for a moment admit the validity of either. Of the former, we trust we have shewn the absolute invalidity, and its inconsistency with the honourable Chairman's own conduct and declarations; if any expectation of the kind had been held out in the public dispatches by the Rattlesnake, we must have seen it, or heard it read in court; if in any letter to the secret committee, the honourable chairman would not have failed to state so substantial a reason for further delay, and we must have been satisfied, however sensible of its extreme hardship on the suffering officers. If any encouragement for such an expectation has been conveyed to the honourable chairman, through any private, or unavowed channel, or any information that other facts or circumstances are collating, on which to found further accusations against them, we submit it to the justice and humanity of the court, whether such a ground for delay ought to be attended to. The other reason assigned by the honourable chairman for further delay, we consider as equally invalid, since it cannot be denied, that a subject so important in all its bearings, should take place of almost every other application of our time; and a perusal of the minutes of the court during the last two months, will abundantly testify, that in that period many subjects have been discussed and adjusted, and many hours and days devoted to matters of no comparative interest.

7. Because, we think we may here bring to the recollection of the court that the honourable Chairman has not always been an advocate for delay, nor disposed to grant it when other members of the court have thought that delay was the course most fit and becoming for them to pursue. At the time that general Macdowall was supposed to be on his passage home, and was daily expected, a memorial was proposed to be presented to the sovereign himself against that unfortunate officer, containing severe imputations, and in which was also introduced a charge against major Boles; delay was then earnestly recommended, on the ground, that general Macdowall might be daily expected in England; and it would look better for the court, that he should be present to answer for himself, when the accusations against him should come before the king, as the statements in the possession of the court were all ex parte from his own opponent. On that occasion the court will recollect, that the honourable chairman against the intreated delay pleaded, that the information was complete, and all on the face of the records.

8. Because, on every conceivable ground, whether with reference to what was due to the public, to the parties accused, to the general impression on the subject which is entertained in India, or to that which we believe to be scarcely less general in this country, wherever a knowledge of the late transactions in India is diffused, the subject called for early consideration, and delay was to be anxiously deprecated. The offences charged against these officers were serious, and they have not shrunk from, but on the contrary have courted an investigation of them; they have not asked to be acquitted, but to be heard. The course proposed in the motion, which the court have rejected, was a middle course, and one to which we are persuaded the parties, notwithstanding all that they have already suffered, would gladly prefer a trial by a court-martial.

9. Because, the circumstances in which the suspended officers are now left, make us feel it a justice due to them to state, from what has come to our knowledge, the view we take of their respective cases; the case of lieutenant-colonel Martin, we have incidentally stated in detail. Lieutenant-colonel the honourable Arthur Sentleger is accused by sir George Barlow of attempting to subvert the government, after having devoted thirty years of his life to the pursuit of military fame and distinction, and attained them in the campaigns of Coote, Cornwallis, and sir Arthur Wellesley, and repeatedly received from the latter, public thanks for his gallant services, and almost immediately after the termination of a campaign, which he had himself conducted with the most brilliant success, in command of the forces employed in Travancore, and received for his services, on that expedition, the thanks of sir George Barlow himself. This officer, unless sir George Barlow has done him the greatest injustice, must suddenly have determined to forfeit all the fame he had acquired in the defence of the company's rights and interests, and to forego all his future prospects, by attempting the overthrow and subversion of their government: such an attempt would hardly be inferred from his signing the letter, and engaging in the subscription for major Boles. We acknowledge, however, that there was another paragraph in that letter, which, giving it the least unfavourable construction, was highly improper, and the epithet of factious might justly be applied to it; but of the more serious charge against lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, of his persuading officers to sign the intended letter to the governor-general, and encouraging them to violence; we doubt not he can acquit himself of both, and of the latter, we believe it quite impossible that he could have been guilty, and certainly there is nothing on our records to give the least colour to such an accusation. Whether or not there was any crime in the mere act of subscribing for the relief or support of major Boles and his family, situated as they were, is a question that sir George Barlow himself makes to depend on another question, and we readily join issue with him upon it,—"It is immaterial to the government (says sir George Barlow) to what purposes officers apply their money, in a general view; but when money is applied to subvert order and subordination, and to indemnify individuals against the consequences of misconduct, it is impossible that such a contribution can be justifiable in a moral or legal light." From these positions, which we fully admit, it might be argued that there was no criminality in contributing for the support of major Boles, unless the officers were conscious that in doing so, they were indemnifying him "against the consequences of misconduct;" we wish not, however, to be understood, as meaning to justify the act, but we think it admits of great extenuation, from the conviction which we believed the officers felt, that major Boles was a victim to the resentment which the government entertained against general Macdowall. The case of captain James Grant lies in a shorter compass: his offence, we believe, being confined to his engaging also in the letter, and subscription for major Boles; an act, certainly, in him, particularly imprudent considering the station he held of commandant of sir George Barlow's own body-guard, but of which the disinterestedness was obviously still greater than the imprudence: he sacrificed his pecuniary interests and prospects to an high, however mistaken, sense of honour: having filled the important station with several preceding governors, his habits, as well as known responsibility of his character, forbad the imputing to him any unworthy or intentionally factious motive. Major John De Morgan, with the characteristic frankness of a soldier,

disdaining to shield himself at the expence of his veracity, acknowledged that he signed the intended letter to the governor-general; and here we must beg to submit to the court, that in all the animadversions and reprobations that have been bestowed on that paper, it seems to have escaped recollection, that there is no proof that any other signature was ever applied to it; and as we know that, in point of fact, no such letter was sent or delivered to lord Minto, and consequently that the act was inchoate and never completed; it may require no great excess of charity to be able to conclude that it was repented of; nor should it be forgotten, that the measure itself, of addressing the governor-general, was not resorted to, or thought of by the officers, until after sir George Barlow had refused to transmit their appeal to the court of directors. Lastly, suppose the act completed, give it all the criminality that the most rigid and prejudiced mind can be disposed to ascribe to it, and let it then be compared with the crimes which have been forgiven, and over which the governor-general has wisely and humanely determined to throw the veil of sincere oblivion! We would also respectfully recommend to the court to contemplate the fact, with the impression it is calculated to produce, that the dispatches sent to Madras in answer to those received by the Rattlesnake, will find and leave major De Morgan in a state of suspension, while they ratify and confirm the clemency extended to many hundreds of officers, who were engaged in open and absolute rebellion! Captain Josiah Marshall is included in the offences charged against lieutenant-colonel Martin on the same evidence, taken in the same examination, with the additional accusation of having been the author and originator of the intended letter to the governor-general, a fact which is assumed on the ground of his having been able to explain words or passages in it to a person employed in transcribing it, whom the honourable chairman was pleased to describe as a clerk, but whose more correct description would have been, that of Portuguese monthly writer or transcriber in the office of the military board. In support also of this accusation, it is stated, that "it appeared from the evidence of one of the witnesses, that captain Marshall was considered at the time (it is to be presumed by them the witnesses) to have been the author of the paper." This officer had some time before been suddenly removed from his station of secretary to the military board, and sent to Vizagapatam with the appointment of paymaster. It appears in the Madras proceedings, that captain Marshall in vain intreated, in a letter to the secretary to government, to be informed of the cause of his removal, and by what part of his conduct he had incurred their displeasure: sir George Barlow did not give any information to captain Marshall on the subject, but in a letter to the governor-general he advanced some allegations against him, that we think he should have felt a repugnance to make, without communicating them to the person whose character was to be affected by them: at present they stand contradicted only by the tenor of his life, and by the universal testimony of all who know captain Marshall, with the exception of those who have prejudiced the mind of sir George Barlow against him. In his letter to the secretary of the court, requesting copies of whatever charges or accusations may have been preferred against him, captain Marshall expresses his readiness to submit himself to the tribunal of the honourable court, in the fullest reliance on its impartial justice, and on its lenient interpretation of any involuntary or unintentional errors that he may have committed, and no part of which it is his intention to conceal.

We come now to what we must consider as the most unjustifiable of all the violent measures taken by the Madras government in the course of the late unhappy transactions, namely, the suspension of major Boles for publishing in general orders, in obedience to the directions of the adjutant-general, a reprimand or censure on the quarter-master general, lieutenant-colonel Munro, for having appealed to the civil government against the authority of the commander-in-chief, in consequence of his having been by that authority ordered in arrest at the requisition of many of the principal officers of the army: whether or not this order was in fact illegal, is a question which we do not presume to decide; but we are confident we shall be borne out by the authorities the most respectable, and best acquainted with the military law as it is understood and acted upon in his majesty's army and navy, when we contend that by refusing obedience to it, major Boles would have rendered himself liable to be cashiered by the sentence of a court martial, and that the doctrine on which alone major Boles could be held responsible for the publication of the order, if delivered to the army and navy, as defining the rule and limit of their obedience, would lead to the most dreadful mischief. With the sincerest respect for the authority of the present governor-general, we cannot, whilst we concur in his definitions as laid down in the 71st and 72d paragraphs of his letter of the 27th May, 1809, admit the correctness of his lordship's application of them to the case in question, for though we fully admit, that criminal orders are not to be obeyed, still the objection is, that it is left to the soldier to determine what order is criminal. The task of upholding at once the justice of the measure of suspending major Boles, and the principle, as it is acted upon in all armies, of implicit military obedience and subordination was too arduous even for his abilities. His lordship's labours for that purpose appear to

as too finely spun, and his distinctions too nice and subtle for the plain understanding of a man bred in camps, and educated in the practical duties of a soldier. We prefer the following observations of Mr. Petrie upon the subject, and find them better adapted to the level of our understandings:—"If (says Mr. Petrie) subordinate officers are taught to discuss and decide upon the legality of the orders of their superiors, we introduce a principle of incalculable evil, neither justified by the spirit or the practice of our laws. Is it not better to let the responsibility rest with the authority which issues the order, unless in cases so plain, that the violation of the established laws is evident to the meanest capacity?" Mr. Petrie might have gone further, for it would be easy to cite cases, and even recent ones, where the order executed has been most clearly and indubitably illegal, yet the principal or authority under which it was issued has alone been held responsible, and no one thought of blaming the immediate agent. On the whole of major Boles's case, we are decidedly of opinion, that he has been severely punished for an act for which he was not responsible; and if that opinion shall be found to be correct, we trust that the court of directors, in determining the reparation to be made to him, will bear in mind, first that he was deprived of his office; secondly, that he was suspended from the company's service; thirdly, that he was refused permission to go home and make his appeal for redress: a refusal, which after he had been suspended, we believe to have been both unprecedented and illegal; and lastly, that he has been considered to have aggravated his offence, or committed a new one, by declining to acknowledge that he was sorry for what he had done. If he was unconscious of having done any thing but what it was his duty to do, we know not how he could, consistently with what was due to his own honour, have made such an acknowledgment; and if the contrary was his feeling, we think it hardly conceivable that he would have exposed himself and his family, to all that they have since endured, and are still suffering, rather than accept of so easy, and in that case so just a condition of being restored to the service. We are rendered the more anxious on the subject of this officer, by adverting back to the court's own suspension of him a few days after they had directed the Madras government to take him out of that situation, and to the grounds assumed for that measure in their letter to Fort St. George of the 29th September last, namely, that the court had found now that major Boles had not conducted himself merely as an "officer compelled by a conviction of military duty to act in opposition to the sense of government, but had gloried in that opposition; and it must be presumed that it was with his own consent his case had become one of the rallying points for systematic resistance to the government in support of the pernicious and unfounded doctrines of the late commander-in-chief, whose cause major Boles appears to have cordially espoused." We feel it but common justice to major Boles to declare, that we have seen nothing that enables us to concur in the above severe conclusions.

Because, we are aware that we have discussed this subject at much greater length than will be approved by those who may have taken a superficial view of it, or who can think it of trivial importance, and our apology must be, that to us it appears to involve considerations of the highest moment. "The company's bark (we agree with the governor-general and sir George Barlow) has steered through the tempest with inflexible firmness," nor do we wish at present to ask if he found it in the tempest, or how it became exposed to one; but we deeply lament, that whatever differences of opinion there might be on that question, there cannot be any as to the course now to be pursued. The Madras army, it cannot be denied, is at present severed, and alienated from the civil government, and until its confidence and attachment are regained, our empire in India must be insecure. The proposition for restoring to the service the suspended officers, had the measure been acceded to, would have contributed essentially to that desirable object, and would have been a most welcome earnest to the officers, of our concurrence in the declared wish of the governor-general, to bury all that has passed in sincere oblivion; on the other hand, the rejection of that measure must, in our opinion, have a very contrary tendency, and we therefore, and on the other grounds stated, desire to record our solemn protest against it.

(Signed) W. F. Elphinstone,
Jas. Pattison,
J. Huddleston,
East India House, J. Bannerman.
11th April, 1810.

East India House, 28th February, 1811.
To the honourable the Court of Directors.
Gentlemen,

Unwilling as we are to add to the many writings which have been submitted to you on the subject of the suspended officers of the Madras establishment, a subject which, to our extreme regret, has of late so much agitated the court, we feel ourselves unavoidably called upon to offer the following observations relative to the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, concerning those officers, and to the dissents which were, in consequence of it, recorded by several members.

That resolution was the result of a deliberate proceeding, held conformably to

the intention expressed in the general letter to Fort St. George, of the 29th September, 1809, and in pursuance of notice given and recorded on a preceding court day.

The resolution did not, as has been very erroneously assumed by some, first pass a judgment on the officers, and then refer the examination of their conduct to a future day. The proceeding of the court was quite different; they first examined and considered the conduct of the officers, and then passed an opinion upon it.

The various documents in possession of the court relative to the subject, which had before been considered, were again read; a debate followed, and, in conclusion, the resolution passed by a majority of 15 to 2.

The resolution distinctly stated it to be the opinion of the court, that the said officers were worthy of dismission; but, because a standing rule required that previous notice should be given of a motion of dismission, the resolution, in obedience to this rule, accordingly bore that the court would, on a future day, proceed to the act of dismission. This mode of procedure necessarily left the subject open to another debate, which the resolution assumed would be final; nor were the court desirous to exclude that further opportunity of discussion which conformity to the standing order would produce, although they thought it their duty then to record the opinion they had formed, and on which the ultimate act of dismission was to proceed.

To this resolution three members of the court thought fit to dissent, chiefly on the grounds, that the officers ought to be heard in their own defence before the final determination of the court; that the government of Madras had itself produced irritation among the officers, and their dismission without a trial would tend to confirm the existing animosity; that the officers might have matter to offer in their own behalf; that further information might be obtained; that no inconvenience could arise from delay; and that there was no pretext for precipitating a decision.

We expected that on the final discussion of this subject, which we then thought could not be far distant, we might have an opportunity of noticing these arguments; but such opportunity not having hitherto occurred, we request permission to take this occasion of stating briefly the reasons which induced us, and, we believe, the majority of the court, to adopt the resolution of the 5th December.

1st.—It was obvious that a spirit of insubordination and sedition had proceeded to a great length among the Madras officers. This spirit acted by combination and written communications between different divisions of the army; and its direct tendency was to overawe or controul the civil power. Such a temper and disposition among military men, could be put down only by a strong and prompt hand. To support the authority of the civil government, was to support the authority of the company itself; if, as was affirmed on one side, but denied on the other, the government of Madras had erred in the manner of supporting a right object, this was no justification of the officers, nor did it absolve them from the duty of obedience. To preserve the possessions of the company and the army itself, sedition must be repelled wherever it appears; and the more extensive it is, the greater is the necessity for decided resistance to it.

2d.—The court were called to this decided exercise of their power by the Madras government; that government represented the particular officers now in question, as active in preparing, signing, or encouraging seditious writings; they suspended them on that account, and recommended it to the court to dismiss them. The court were pledged by their letter to Fort St. George, of 29th September, 1809, to proceed to the serious consideration of the question of dismission.

3d.—There are cases in which all governments remove officers without a trial by court martial. The company and their governments have this power, and have exercised it on grounds far less urgent than the case and conduct of the officers at present in question. When the great body of the officers of an army are in a state of insubordination, how could an accusation of insubordination be submitted to a court, formed of those officers? and how could government resort to a dilatory course of legal proceeding, when prompt measures were absolutely required. It is not to be denied, that the government of Madras had no alternative between the course they pursued, and suffering the evil to go on:

4th.—The evidence on which the government of Madras proceeded to the suspensions of the 1st May, appeared to the court to be, in the circumstances in which the government were placed, sufficient to warrant that conduct which they thought their duty prescribed to them. The officers were not ignorant of the reasons of their suspensions; but some gave in no defence at Madras, and others, what appeared rather to aggravate their case. Indeed, no one of them had distinctly denied the main fact of which they were accused, that is, either preparing or signing seditious writings,

5th.—The usual practice of the court of directors is, to decide on the question relating to their accused Indian servants, by the documents transmitted from India They do not, in general, call their servants home to be examined.

When servants come home, as in the present case, under suspension by any of the governments abroad, whatever defence of

information they produce here, which they did not produce in India, can only be of the nature of ex parte evidence, the governments abroad have no means of knowing or answering it, unless it be transmitted to them; whereas to try a cause between parties fairly, the one party should hear what the other advances. And the court, though they do well to reserve their power of final judgment, in all cases to themselves, can seldom exercise it safely or satisfactorily, except on evidence which their governments have had an opportunity of knowing and meeting. The company do not and cannot proceed in the investigation of the conduct of their accused Indian servants, by the same forms, pleadings, and evidence, as are required in our courts of law. This system of proceeding would be quite impracticable to them, or to any government, with respect to the functionaries of a distant dependency. And it is to be remembered, that the whole question in such cases, is much of the nature of a question between master and servants, or between superiors and inferiors. However solicitous a master may be, to decide equitably between his servants, yet if he sees reason to believe that the conduct of a servant has endangered his affairs, that the servant has failed in duty, and has set a pernicious example to others, he surely has a right to withdraw his confidence from that servant, and to dispense with his service; and, however tender he may choose to be in exercising this right, occasions may arise in which it may plainly be his duty to proceed to that exercise.

Such, in the opinion of the court, was the case now under consideration. Convinced as they were of the misconduct of the officers in question, they deemed it important at that crisis, that they should not appear to hesitate in giving the most decided support to the cause of legal government; and as far as our recollection serves, the president of the board of commissioners was of the same opinion.

It was upon these grounds that the resolution of the 5th of December was passed; and the letters since received from the governor-general of the 12th of October, 1809, and 15th April, 1810, strongly inculcate the principle on which the court therein acted, of upholding the authority of the civil power.

Some who have espoused the cause of the officers, seem to have censured the court for having so long delayed to carry their recorded intention of dismission into effect; but surely, those who complain of the suspension of the officers as severe, cannot, with consistency, think it matter of accusation that those officers have not been actually dismissed. It will, however, be proper to explain the reasons which superseded, during the remainder of the direction of 1809-10, the execution of the court's intention expressed on the 5th December.

Two days afterwards, namely on the 7th December, some fresh advices, dated 27th May, and 9th June, 1809, arrived from Fort St. George, via Bombay, by the ships [illegible]ton Castle and Bombay, among which were a letter from major de Morgan, and a memorial from the honourable lieutenant colonel Sentleger.

Although these documents might not appear to contain matter which would change the opinion entertained by the court, yet, as they had arrived, it was proper to give some time for the perusal and consideration of them.

But floating rumours of a very unpleasant nature, which soon after began to circulate respecting the Madras army, were confirmed by advices received from Ceylon, by his majesty's government, early in January, 1810, and which were communicated to the chairman, by the secretary of state, on the 8th of that month, and read in court the next day. Hitherto, the informations before the court represented only a part of the Madras army, as in a factious and insubordinate state; and that spirit, though undoubtedly carried to very intemperate lengths, as likely to be subdued by the measures which the government had adopted, up to the 1st of May, 1809; but the advices from Ceylon, which came down to the 21st August, represented the greater part of the company's officers of the Madras establishment, as hostile to that government; some divisions of the army to be in actual revolt; and government to be employing its resources for resisting the insurgents, and subduing the revolt by force.

This gave a new appearance and character to the whole of the question concerning the Madras army. However culpable and deserving of punishment the first ringleaders in seditious proceedings might have been, the case of a few individuals, accused of being of this description, was, as it were, put out of sight by the far more important one of the actual revolt of many; and whilst their unnatural hostility was in operation and progress, and the prospect of its consequences so appalling, it did not seem congruous or expedient to revert to one minute spot in this great scene.

Towards the end of January, a succinct account was received from Madras by the Ganges, dated the 6th September, 1809, of the progress and suppression of the rebellion; and the same conveyance brought intelligence of the arrival of the governor general at that presidency, and of his being about to enter on the task of inquiry and decision respecting the conduct of those officers who had been most conspicuous in the revolt.

Owing to the multiplicity of affairs pressing upon the court at that season of the year, it was the latter end of February before the Madras dispatch of the 6th September was answered; and about the mid-

dle of the month of March, arrived by the Rattlesnake, lord Minto's letter of the 12th October, 1809, detailing at length his sentiments, and the measures he intended to pursue with regard to the principal offenders in the rebellion. Several of these were to be brought to a court martial; and it was naturally to be expected that one result of such a procedure would be to throw fresh light upon the origin and progress of the discontents in the Madras army. Under such circumstances, it seemed peculiarly unadvisable to proceed upon the case of the few suspended officers at home, especially as the delay was, under the existing resolution of the court, favourable to them; and in effect, from the new matter that had come home, and the prospect of still further information, it was understood, though not the subject of any formal minute, that whenever the court should proceed to a final determination concerning the suspended officers, the question must embrace facts and considerations not in the contemplation of the court when the resolution of the 5th December was adopted.

On the 4th April, 1810, however, several members of the court who had contended for delay, in order fully to hear and consider the defence of the suspended officers, supported a motion for restoring those officers to their former regiments and rank in the service, and to their regimental allowances from the time of their embarkation for India, without any trial or investigation.

This motion, founded on the amnesty passed by lord Minto in India, and on arguments chiefly deduced from that measure, was rejected by the previous question; and the grounds on which it was resisted, may be collected from an amendment proposed to it, and, in consequence, recorded, which was afterwards withdrawn. It will be seen from that amendment, that we then understood the case of the suspended officers to be, from the events and documents which had come under the notice of court, subsequent to the 5th of December, open to full reconsideration, and that it was the intention of the court to go into such reconsideration, as already mentioned; though no formal determination to that effect had been minuted. In this intention we certainly concurred; for though we continued to think that the resolution of the 5th December was warranted by the documents then before the court, and the circumstances of the time expressing as it did, only an opinion, and leaving the question of actual dismission still open to debate; yet we were perfectly willing and desirous that every subsequent information which could throw light on the case of the officers, and every thing they had subsequently offered in their own defence, should be fairly weighed.

To the rejection of the motion of the 4th of April, a dissent, signed by four members of the court was given in on the 11th of that month. The change in the direction at that time, and other business of a pressing nature, easily disposed us, conceiving as we then did, the final discussion of the case of the officers to be at no great distance, to wave an immediate answer to that dissent; feeling, as in reality we also did, more reluctance to the continuance of disputation, than difficulty with respect to the arguments contained in it. The same state of mind may, we trust, at this remote period, after so many other papers have been written relative to the same subject, and so many intermediate proceedings connected with it have taken place, sufficiently excuse us for not going into any detailed reply to that dissent; whilst we trust that our declining to take any more than a cursory view of it, as we now proceed to do, will not be ascribed to any other cause. In truth, the dissent in question appears to us, from the nature of the proposition for which it contends, and the arguments it employs, to be particularly open to reply. After the court had formerly pledged itself to go into a solemn examination of the case of those officers, and had passed an opinion, declaring them worthy of dismission; after the authors of the dissent had themselves pleaded for delay in order to the hearing of the officers, and for full investigation; after they had indeed contended for the innocence of these officers; a proposition to extend to them, by summary resolution, without trial or examination, the benefit of an amnesty, which term always presupposes guilt, seemed to us full of incongruity, and entirely inadmissible. Many of the reasons adduced against the rejection of that proposition, also appear to us to be incongruous. If, as is argued, the court's general orders of the 27th May, 1774, forbade the dismission of servants without a trial; if, after the court had heard the *ex parte* statements, as they are termed of the Madras government, impartial justice demanded they should also hear the officers; if, when the resolution of the 5th December was passed, it was thought by the proposers of it, that there was information enough before the court; if the officers had waited two or more months without being heard, and most of them without being even told of what they were accused; if after all they asked not to be acquitted, but to be heard; all these might be valid reasons for proceeding to examination and trial, but surely could not, even if just in themselves, afford any fair conclusion for restoring the officers, without either trial or consideration of their case. In fact, however, the general orders of 1774, were not, as we believe, meant to apply to cases of extensive military insubordination or sedition,

nor to withdraw from the Indian governments, the power of suspending officers without the sentence of a court martial, a power which has occasionally been used ever since; and as to what is termed the *ex parte* statements of the Madras government, it has been the usual practice of the court, as already observed, to judge of the conduct of their servants abroad, by the representations and documents received from their governments. In the general orders suspending the officers, with which they were necessarily acquainted, the offences imputed to them are described. It is asked, "how the circumstances in which the Madras government were placed, could apply in our justification?" Those circumstances certainly entered essentially into the consideration of the conduct of that government; and as to the opinion passed by the court on the officers, in the resolution of the 5th December, it stands on this ground: "those evidences, so far as they are brought before the court, do appear clearly to establish the guilt of the parties." It is said of Sir G. Barlow, in the examinations he held before him respecting those officers, that his exclusive object was not the discovery of innocence. We apprehend the proper object of his inquiries, and of the inquiries of all judges to be the discovery of truth. With regard to the delay till April last, of the consideration of the officers cases, the causes of it have also been already explained. There were no such reasons for delay in representing the conduct of general Macdowall to his majesty, though the dissent insinuates that measure to have been precipitate. General Macdowall having declared, that he would not appeal to the court, no further information was to be expected from him, nor had they the power of passing any sentence upon him. It was therefore the duty of the court to lay the representations against him before the king, without even delaying so long as they had; for that step did not decide on his case, but only put into his majesty's hands, documents on which to found an inquiry, in such time and manner as he should judge fit; and the delay in the case of the officers has since been extended much further, without any recorded objection by the authors of the dissent. Were it indeed certain, as stated in the second reason of dissent, that "the removal of the officers essentially contributed to produce the fermentation in the army, which previously led to the guilty determination of seeking redress by force of arms," (a mode of expression, which, we presume, the gentlemen, on reconsideration, may think not well chosen) still it must be fair to inquire whether the officers were guilty of the offences with which they were charged, and whether their suspension might not have been a proper measure. It is said that the restoration of the officers would have contributed essentially to the conciliation of the army. The amnesty of lord Minto, which is held forth as the great example, and was, by the way, an amnesty where there was no individual accusation, does not appear to have had that effect: and, certainly, there is another most important concern, which has not been touched on in this dissent, how the credit and authority of the civil government is to be preserved against military encroachment and sedition. The word "charged," is said, in the dissent, to be used as if it were synonymous with "convicted." We think it will be found not to be so used; it was not intended to strain its natural import, nor are we aware of any forced inferences contained in the resolution of the 5th December. To the personalities introduced into the dissent, towards the late chairman, he wishes only to reply, that throughout these affairs, he has acted according to his sense of duty. The opposition he made to the introduction, the general court, by the respectable officer alluded to in the dissent, of the subject of the suspended officers, when there was no question nor notice of any question before that court, and only the case of one side could have been heard, was a necessary observance of established order and propriety. The information he then, on the authority only of the public dispatches, mentioned to be still in expectation, was information on the general important question respecting the state and temper of the Madras army: the arraignment of the chairman for measures which were become the measures of the court, is not regular nor decorous.

Many things are, in our opinion, drawn into this dissent, without relevancy to the point in hand; and the judicial review introduced into it, of the cases of the several officers on whose conduct the opinion of the court still remained to be pronounced, appeared to us then, as it does now, to have been premature and irregular; and against the statement given of those cases, we must protest, as being both defective and erroneous. But deeming this mode of previously bringing forward individual decisions, on cases which are before the court for judgment, as objectionable, we shall abstain at the present moment especially, from passing any opinion on the cases in question.

From the causes above-mentioned, the direction of 1809-10 closed without the final determination which, in a very different state of things, the resolution of the 5th December, had intended at an earlier period.

The same motives for delay continued to operate in the new direction, into which, besides six members had entered who were not parties to the proceedings of the foregoing year, and who needed time to ac-

quaint themselves with the voluminous documents which had relation to the cases of those officers; and it appeared at length to be the general opinion of the new court, that the further consideration of the cases of these officers ought to be delayed, in order to afford an opportunity for receiving from India any information from the reports of the courts martial, or any other source that might throw light on their conduct; and it was only on the 24th September, 1810, that lord Minto's letter of the 15th April, 1810, announcing the conclusion of those trials by court martial, arrived in England, by the William Pitt from Madras. On the 10th October following, the court of directors came to the resolution "that this court will, on Tuesday, the 20th November next, proceed to take into consideration the cases of the several officers of the Madras army, now at home under suspension, and that the said officers have notice thereof;" and although the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, was not on that occasion formally alluded to, it is obvious that, according to the terms of the resolution of the 10th October, the court must have considered the whole of the cases of those officers, respecting which it has appeared much new matter had been received, as still open to consideration.

It seems only necessary to add, that the delay, and the cause of it, was publicly known and announced by the chairman, not only in his place in the House of Commons in May last, in a reply to a question put to him by a near connection of one of the Madras officers, but was also stated personally to that officer by the chairman, who expressed himself satisfied with the determination.

We have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient,
Humble Servants,
W. Astell,
C. Grant.

To the honourable the Court of Directors, &c.

Gentlemen,

I request your permission to enter the following memorandum upon the court's records:

The resolution of the court of the 5th December, 1809, respecting the dismissal from the service of the Madras suspended officers, without having called upon them for their defence, having been introduced into the paper read in court on the 6th instant, signed by the chairman and Charles Grant, Esq. and the statement being correct, as to the numbers which appear to have balloted for and against that question, viz. fifteen for, and two against it, although three of the members then present, spoke warmly against it, and three entered their written dissents, I am anxious to free myself from the charge of having voted for a measure, which, at the time I stated in my place to have been of the most exceptionable nature that I had ever witnessed, and I am still of the same opinion.

(Signed) S. Toone.

East India House,
the 8th March, 1811.

"At a Court of Directors held on Wednesday, the 27th February, 1811,"*

"The under-mentioned papers being called for, were read; viz.—

"General letter from Fort St. George, in the public department, dated 18th September, 1810, with the enclosures therein; viz. Nos. 2, 3, and 4.

"Extract of commissions of government for Fort St. George, dated 2d June, 1807, and 10th April, 1810.

"The following motion was then made; viz.—

"That the opinion of the company's standing council be taken respecting the legality of the proceedings of the Madras government, in the removal of Mr. Petrie from the council of that presidency, previous to the receipt of the new commission of government, and to the arrival of sir Samuel Auchmuty, appointed second in council; and previous likewise to the receipt of orders to that effect, under the hands of thirteen or more of the directors."

"And the previous question on the said motion being moved; viz.

"That this question be now put;—

"And the same being taken by the ballot,—

"It passed in the negative."

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, 26th March, 1811.

The chairman acquainting the court, that it is specially summoned for the purpose of taking into further consideration the cases of the suspended Madras officers.

And the following motions being separately put;

It was

Resolved by the ballot, That major De Morgan appears to this court to have been guilty of having signed a very improper and inflammatory address to lord Minto, containing doctrines hostile to the existence of

* The proceedings of the court of directors are not continued here exactly in order of time; but in such a way, it is trusted, as to keep the discussion on particular points as distinct as practicable, and as little interrupted as may be in detail.—The reader will observe, that a great lapse of time had occurred, which is explained in the correspondence, between the proposed resolution for the dismission of certain officers, and the date when the subject was resumed.

military discipline, and calculated to lead to the subversion of all due authority in the state; and that he has also, in the intended prosecution of lieutenant-colonel Munro, and in his letter to colonel Cuppage, dated 14th April, 1809, exhibited a spirit deserving of much reprehension.

Resolved by the ballot, That captain Marshall appears to this court to have been guilty of having prepared copies of the intended factious and inflammatory memorial to lord Minto, hostile, as already mentioned, both to military discipline and to legal government, at as early a period as the beginning of February, 1809—That this fact might lead to the inference of his having had a further concern in the circumstances relating to this paper; and in the most favourable construction that could possibly be put upon his conduct, must prove that he was highly deficient in an essential point of his duty, in concealing the knowledge of it from the government of Madras.

Resolved by the ballot, That lieutenant-colonel Martin, also appears to this court to have been guilty of having been concerned in preparing copies of the intended factious and inflammatory memorial to lord Minto, the character of which has been already described, at as early a period as the beginning of February, 1809.—That this fact, as in the case of captain Marshall, might lead to the inference of his having been further concerned in the circumstances relating to this paper; and in the most favourable construction that could possibly be put upon his conduct, must prove that he was deficient in his duty, in concealing the knowledge of it from the government of Madras.

Resolved by the ballot, that captain Grant appears to have been guilty of a very serious offence against military discipline and the authority of legal government, in subscribing his name to an address to major Boles, in which a systematic resistance to government is upheld, and an indemnity is offered to the persons suffering under such resistance; and that captain Grant has moreover added to this offence by the reprehensible manner in which he introduced this paper to the notice of the government of Fort St. George.

A letter from John Huddleston, Esq. member of this court, dated this day, containing his observations upon a letter from the late and present chairman, read in court the 6th instant, was read.

To the honourable Court of Directors of the East India company.

"Gentlemen,

"In the letter to the court, from the late chairman and deputy chairman, delivered and read the 6th instant, a construction is given to the resolution of the court of the 5th December, 1809, on the subject of the Madras suspended officers, so essentially different from that which I conceive to be the correct one, and observations are applied to the dissent which was recorded against that resolution, and to the proposition offered to the court on the 4th April, 1810, for the removal of the suspensions, and to the dissent which was recorded on the 11th, by four members of the court, against the rejection of that proposition, of a nature so extraordinary, that I should be wanting to those of our absent ex-colleagues, whose signatures appear with mine to the last-mentioned dissent, and to the sentiments and principles which I have invariably maintained in relation to the whole subject, if by omitting to notice that construction and those observations, I left them to produce the impression which they are calculated to make, not on the court, or on any of its members, but on those who may read them without a previous knowledge of the transactions and a perusal of the documents to which they refer.

"After what has been said, and the opinions that have been declared of the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, by members of the court distinguished not less for their moderation and candour, than for their pre-eminent talents and long experience, I rather expected that one of those members would propose the expunging of that resolution from our minutes, than that even the parent of it, the late chairman himself, would venture on the Herculean task of attempting its defence.

"The great aim of the letter in question, is to give a character and construction to the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, widely different from those which it has hitherto borne, and of which I believe no human ingenuity can divest it. I propose to examine progressively every material statement which the letter contains. It begins with observing, that "the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, was the result of a deliberate proceeding, held in pursuance of notice given and recorded on a preceding court day. The resolution did not, as has been very erroneously assumed by some, first pass a judgment on the officers, and then refer the examination of their cases to a future day, the proceeding of the court was quite different; they first examined and considered the conduct of the officers, and then passed an opinion upon it." The chairman on the preceding court day, did certainly acquaint the court, that on Tuesday next, he intended to submit to their consideration what further proceedings may be proper respecting the officers lately suspended at Fort St. George. On that Tuesday, the chairman came to the court with a paper ready prepared, and delivered a speech, from which it was obvious that the paper expressed a resolution for dismissing the suspended officers; a discussion ensued, in which several members,

and particularly one of great influence in the court, who is always the calm opposer of violent and precipitate measures, deprecated what they conceived would be so harsh and unjust a proceeding, as the officers accused were as yet absent and unheard, and there was nothing before the court but the *ex parte* statements of their accuser; in consequence of this discussion, the paper was altered by the chairman himself with the aid of the secretary, and at length reduced to the form and words in which it now appears, and I think it will be found that it does much more than "pass an opinion" on the conduct of the officers.

"The letter proceeds to state, that "the various documents in possession of the court, relative to the subject which had before been considered, were again read, a debate followed, and in conclusion the resolutions passed by a majority of 15 to 2." I know only of the papers having been read, but not of any previous consideration of them; and as five members at least earnestly deprecated the adoption of the resolution, and three recorded protests against it, I am at a loss to account for the fact of there having appeared only two votes on the ballot against it; and it seems to me explicable only, by supposing that several members must, by mistake, have balloted for the resolution, when they intended to have balloted against it.

"Before proceeding to the next paragraph in the letter, it is necessary to offer a short prefatory statement.

"The Madras government had deprived the officers of their stations and commands; suspended four of them from the company's service, and ordered them ignominiously to England without a trial or a hearing; and recommended a fifth, lieutenant colonel Martin, to be dismissed the service—not to call upon him for his defence, or see if he could offer any, but to dismiss him from the service.

"The resolution in question, of the 5th December, 1809, when the parties were on their passage to England, (excepting lieutenant-colonel Martin, who was then actually in London, and ignorant even of his having been accused) in confirmation of that proceeding of the Madras government, assumes the guilt of the officers on the *ex parte* criminating statement of their accuser, and pledges the court to proceed on a future day, to the act of their dismission.

"Such is the definition given of the resolution in question, in a Protest against it, dated the 5th of the same month, and enlarged upon in another, by four members of the court, of the 11th April ensuing; and to determine whether or not the definition is a just one, all that I conceive to be necessary is, to read the resolution itself to which it is applied. After the lapse, however, of fifteen months, namely, from the 5th December, 1809, to the 6th March, 1811, a letter is addressed to the court, which virtually, though not in express terms, denies that the resolution pledged the court to the act of dismission, and through many succeeding pages, labours hard to inculcate the idea, that it left the subject open for future deliberation. That in the early pages of the letter, however, the writer felt the difficulty of the task he had undertaken, will be manifest in comparing the peculiar phraseology employed in the following passage with the resolution itself.

"The resolution distinctly stated it to be the opinion of the court, that the said officers were worthy of dismission; but because a standing rule required that previous notice should be given of a motion of dismission, the resolution, in obedience to this rule, accordingly bore, that the court would, on a future day, proceed to the act of dismission. This mode of procedure necessarily left the subject open to another debate, which the resolution assumed would be final. Nor were the court desirous to exclude that further opportunity of discussion, which in conformity to the standing order it would produce, although they thought it their duty then to record the opinion they had formed, and on which the ultimate act of dismission was to proceed."

"Here, it will be obvious, is an admission not very distant from the character assigned to the resolution in the dissents, namely, that it pledged the court to proceed to the act of dismission on a future day; but this admission is gradually receded from as the letter advances, until at length it is broadly stated that the resolution expressed "only an opinion," leaving the question, "of actual dismission, still open to debate;" and then follow these words, "yet we were perfectly willing and desirous that every subsequent information which could throw light on the case of the suspended officers, and every thing they had subsequently offered in their defence, should be fully weighed." To all acquainted with the facts, this passage must, we think, appear extraordinary—in the protest of the 11th April, 1810, by four directors, it is stated as their belief (with reference to the proceedings of the 5th December, on the cases of the suspended officers) that the proposition which the chairman on that day brought forward in court, "in the original draft, extended to their dismission from the service;" and I think that if the late chairman could have contradicted that statement, he would not have omitted to do it, in a letter which, though professing to take only a cursory view of that protest, and to consider it as peculiarly "open to reply," devotes to it eight pages of a large-sized paper, closely written, and adverts to no

part of it that is more important. If it was, however, merely an omission, the late chairman will have an opportunity of rectifying it at whatever period of time hereafter he may, as I conjecture he will, condescend to notice the observations I am now submitting to the court, and of denying that the proposition he brought forward on the 5th December, 1809, did (as he brought it into court) extend to the dismission of the five suspended officers therein named, from the company's service; and if he cannot make that denial, it will remain with him to reconcile his intention to have proposed the dismission of the officers that day from the service, with his having been "perfectly willing and desirous that every subsequent information which could throw light on the case of the officers, and every thing they had subsequently offered in their own defence, should be fully weighed;" to what period the words "subsequent and subsequently, are meant to refer, and whether it can be to any but a period subsequent to their dismission from the service: the late chairman will, perhaps, also condescend to explain:—it is a fact never to be lost sight of by those who wish to form a candid and impartial judgment on the whole subject of the proceedings of the 5th December, 1809, that four of the suspended officers were at that time on their passage to England, and that they had been suspended in India without a trial or a hearing, or being called upon for any explanation or defence; and that the fifth (lieutenant-colonel Martin) was in London, and ignorant even of his having been accused, at the moment that the court were debating the question of his dismission from the service. But I will now suppose the late chairman to be able to deny that the paper he brought forward in court the 5th December, did, before it was altered, express a resolution of actual dismission of the suspended officers, and take the resolution as it now stands on the minutes of the court, and then leave to every impartial breast to decide whether, as stated in the letter before us, it expressed "only an opinion, leaving the question of actual dismission still open to debate," or whether, as I contend, it pledged the court to proceed to the act of dismission on a future day. On these points the resolution shall speak for itself; the words are these, "That the offences with which those officers are charged, are of the most dangerous and criminal nature, subversive of all legitimate authority, and ought always to receive the severest punishment which the court of directors can inflict; since lenity in such a case to individuals, would prove most detrimental and pernicious to the general interest of the army, the Indian governments, and the nation.

"That, in the circumstances in which the government of Fort St. George were placed, and under the conviction they had from evidences before them, the measures they adopted with respect to those officers, were proper and necessary.

"That those evidences, so far as they are brought before the court, do appear clearly to establish the guilt of the different parties to whom they related, and to shew them worthy of dismission.

"That it is therefore proper to proceed to the act of dismission; and that agreeably to the standing rule of the service, which requires notice of a motion of a dismission, the court do, on a future day, proceed to the said act, namely, the dismission of lieutenant-colonel Sentleger, major de Morgan, captain Marshall, capt. Grant, and lieutenant-colonel Martin; and in the meantime, that lieutenant-col. Martin, now at home, who was equally implicated, and upon the same evidences in the offence for which captain Marshall was suspended; who would have been suspended in like manner, had he been in India, and whom the Fort St. George government recommend it to the court to dismiss with the other officers; be, until the final consideration of their case comes on, suspended, as they are, from the company's service."

"As I have just quoted the words of the resolution, I shall repeat here the statement made in the protest of the 10th April, and questioned in the letter I am now discussing; that in the resolution of the 5th December, the word charged is made use of, and relied on precisely as if the signification were synonimous with the word convicted. I confidently ask, whether the officers having been charged with offences of the most criminal and dangerous nature, is not one of the expressed grounds for the severe declaration which follows in the concluding paragraph, namely, "that it is therefore proper to proceed to the act of dismission." If the late chairman himself can still entertain a doubt of my correctness on this point, or give a negative answer to the foregoing question, I invite him to state distinctly what "therefore" refers to; submitting to him, at the same time, whether his difficulties would be at all lessened by making it refer exclusively to the statement which immediately precedes it. Lastly, before taking leave of the defence now offered for the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, I shall accept it in the very sense contended for, and suppose it not to have pledged the court to the act of dismission, but merely to have pronounced it as the opinion of the court, that the officers were worthy of dismission; and even taking it solely in that sense, I submit it to the candid reflection of the court, whether the so pronouncing upon men absent and unheard, even if, instead of being all officers of

known merit, they had been the humblest individuals dependant on the company for bread, would not have been a violation of the great principle of *audi alteram partem*; and in that a violation of the principle delivered to us as comprehending the sum and essence of our duty; for it may safely be affirmed that it is a principle which no one ever violated who would not loudly claim the benefit of it in his own case.—" Hear all, and then judge," has been a precept revered by every upright tribunal; and, in our several discussions on the cases of the suspended officers, it has repeatedly been observed, and in no instance denied, that we were acting as a solemn tribunal, sitting in judgment on the reputations and fortunes of officers who had served the company from twenty to thirty years with unblemished honour and fidelity. It might have been added, that besides the character of judge, we filled also those of jury, and of party in the cause, since we represent that body against which the offences are alleged to have been committed: the more binding and sacred, therefore, was the obligation upon us to judge with strict impartiality, and to guard our minds with the utmost jealousy against the influence of the impressions which the ex parte unanswered representations of the Madras government could not fail to produce.—I yet trust that the ultimate result of our proceedings, in all that is now before us, may carry with it the approbation of the public; but, whatever that result may be, I am sure that no member of the court will ever regret that the resolution of the 5th December was resisted.

" The letter then notices the fact of three members of the court having recorded dissents to the resolution, and professes to describe the grounds on which these dissents rested. I would however prefer, that for the arguments on which those dissents were founded, and for the motives which induced us to record them, the papers themselves should be referred to.

" The letter then proceeds to account for the delay in answering those dissents, and to state the reasons which induced them (the late chairman and deputy-chairman), and they believe a majority of the court, to adopt the resolution of the 5th December, and it then necessarily involves a laboured defence of the Madras government. It was obvious" (says the letter) " that a spirit of insubordination and sedition had proceeded to a great length among the Madras officers; this spirit acted by combination and written communications between different divisions of the army, and its direct tendency was to overawe or controul the civil government; such a temper and disposition among military men could be put down only by a strong and prompt hand; to support the authority of the civil government, was to support the authority of the company itself. If, as was affirmed on one side, and denied on the other, the government of Madras had erred in supporting a right object, this was no justification of the conduct of the officers; to preserve the possessions of the company, sedition must be repelled," &c.

" This passage, however ingeniously worded, will upon examination, we believe, be found to apply neither to the defence of the court's resolution of the 5th December, nor to that of the conduct of the Madras government; the whole of it is built on facts, not one of which is proved; and in the former part, a fact is assumed which is capable of easy disproof; the effects which are known to have been produced by the suspensions and removals of the 1st May, are assumed as the cause of those severe acts. The reader is ingeniously led to suppose, that at that date the system of combination and of communications between the different divisions of the army had already taken place, and that the court was apprized of them when the resolution of the 5th December, was proposed and adopted; whereas a reference to dates will clearly shew, that on the 5th December, 1809, the court of directors were not in possession of any evidence, or of any advices relating to insubordination or sedition, except the minute of sir George Barlow, of the 1st of May, 1809, in which there is no allusion to any combinations or written communications between divisions of the army; indeed it is impossible there could be any, for sir George Barlow, in his subsequent dispatches, expressly states, that the system of combination was established throughout the army, after the Hydrabad officers had declared their participation in the feelings of their brother officers, and had disclaimed the praises bestowed on themselves in the orders of the 1st May. In proof of the correctness of this statement, it is only necessary to refer to the letter from the Madras Government, dated the 6th September, (paras. 5 and 6) which was received per Ganges on the 24th January, 1810, and to the general letter of the 10th of September, (paras. 5, 6, 7 and 8), which was received per Rattlesnake, on the 12th of March, 1810. These letters distinctly shew that the combinations of the officers, and the written communications between the divisions of the army, were the consequences, and not the causes, of the orders of the 1st of May. It was the summary mode of punishment announced in those orders, that produced an universal feeling of indignation, and led to those excesses, in the guilt of which the letter (unwittingly we trust) labours to involve the officers whose sufferings excited them.

" Colonel Malcolm's communications from Masulipatam, of the 4th and 5th of July, appear to have been the earliest on which the knowledge of a combination among the officers was founded: nor can any fact or circumstance be adduced to shew, that the officers alluded to in the court's resolution of the 5th December, or any of them, were concerned in that combination; or that any was formed

until after they had been sent beyond the territories of the Madras government. The imputation, therefore, and the argument built, have been too lightly hazarded; and even if they were correct, I should submit to the court of directors, and to every generous mind that may hereafter peruse these records, with what grace they are brought forward at this precise moment, when the accused officers have closed their defence, and are precluded from any opportunity of answering them.

"Of the next argument in defence of the resolution of the 5th December, the substance is this:—"The court were called to the decided exercise of their power by the Madras government; in other words, the Madras government had suspended the officers without a trial or a hearing, and they called upon the court of directors to follow their example, by dismissing them from the service in the same summary manner." They represented them, or in the words of the resolution, they "charged them as having been active in preparing, &c. seditious papers; suspended them on that account, and recommended it to the court to dismiss them." Is not here again the word "charged" (or represented as having been guilty) relied on exactly as if it were synonymous with the word convicted? The next sentence is precisely in the same spirit; it attempts to justify a resolution, which, even on the late chairman's own admission, pronounced on the guilt of the officers without hearing them in their defence, by stating, that "the court were pledged, by their letter to Fort St. George of the 29th of September, 1809, to proceed to the serious consideration of the question of dismission!"

"The letter proceeds to state, that "there are cases in which all governments remove officers without a trial by court-martial: the company and their governments have this power, and have exercised it on grounds far less urgent than the case and conduct of the officers at present in question. When the great body of the officers of an army are in a state of insubordination, how could an accusation be submitted to a court formed of those officers, &c."

"From this and other passages in the letter, an uninformed reader would be led to conclude that the objection urged in the dissents to sir George Barlow's procedure towards the officers, was confined to his not having granted them a trial by a court-martial. The late chairman, perhaps by accident, forgets in every instance to state, on this point, the whole fact; namely, that they were suspended, not only without a military investigation, but without any investigation at all, without any enquiry whatever: without having been allowed a hearing, or an opportunity given them of offering any thing in their justification or defence. Their accusation and punishment were declared in the same breath. As to the abstract principle laid down by the late chairman in the passage last quoted, he seems to have forgotten how fully it is recognized in the protest, by Messrs. Huddleston and Pattison, of the 13th of December, 1809, against the resolution of the 5th, in the following words:—"admitting, as we do in the fullest sense, that the court of directors as the representatives of the East India company, have indisputably a legal power to dismiss officers from the service of the company without bringing them to trial by a court-martial, we are of opinion that it is a power the exercise of which is justifiable only in cases of extreme necessity, of enormous guilt, established and proved on the clearest and most incontrovertible evidence; and above all, we contend, that if in such extreme cases public expediency requires that a company's officer should be precluded from the privilege of being tried by his peers, it becomes in consequence a still more sacred duty not to deprive him of his remaining privilege, a full and impartial hearing; but if ever a precedent should be established for deciding on the honour and character of officers, and consigning them to degradation and ruin without either a trial or a hearing, we are of opinion, that from that moment there will no longer exist the best security for the attachment and confidence of that body of men, to whose brave and able exertions we have been principally indebted for all we have acquired in India, and on whom we still greatly depend for its preservation."—The protest also of four directors, of the 11th April, 1810, admits the apology offered in extenuation of the summary violence of the conduct of the Madras government to all the removed and suspended officers, with the exception of lieutenant-colonel Martin, from whom, as he was in England, they could have nothing to fear; excepting also the suspensions of colonel Capper and major Boles, for which I have always thought that no shadow of excuse or justification could be offered. Much allowance is certainly due to the circumstances in which the Madras government were placed; the general agitation and ferment which pervaded the settlement, and of which their own minds partook; surrounded too with spies and informers, whose harvest such times abundantly supply; ready to give implicit credit to every report and every information favourable to the impressions they had already admitted. Of this, could there be a stronger proof than is given in sir George Barlow's serious and solemn narration of the proceedings of a secret divan of five of the friends of general Macdowall, who, after his departure, met for the mysterious and alarming purpose of "deliberating what measures they should pursue?" But I again ask how the circumstances in which the Madras government were placed could apply in our justification, or where we could have looked for any, if we had followed their example?"

I have now to notice a passage in the letter before me, not the least extraordinary of all the extraordinary passages with which

it appears to us to abound. "The officers were not ignorant of the reasons of their suspensions, but some gave in no defence at Madras, and others what appeared rather to aggravate their conduct; indeed, no one of them distinctly denied the main fact of which they were accused." That this last assertion cannot apply to the conduct of the officers since their arrival in England, must be obvious on reading their respective memorials; and at Madras, what opportunity was given to them to make, and what disposition was shewn to receive their denial, this imputation must bring to recollection a passage in Sir George Barlow's minute of the 1st of May, in which, after having already assumed the guilt of major Boles, and inflicted on him the severest punishment he had the power to inflict, he states that he would have been happy to have attended to the plea "in alleviation of his offence, that he had acted under a mistaken idea of his duty, or that he had been misled."

The officers respectfully claimed to be heard; they supplicated to be furnished with the grounds, the evidence, the authority, on which the accusations against them were founded; they were answered by orders to embark for England, and it is now imputed to them that they gave in no defence at Madras.

"The letter next observes, that the usual practice of the court of directors, is to decide on the questions relating to accused India servants, by the documents transmitted from India," they do "not in general call them home to be examined." This is literally correct, but as to what it conveys, it stands in need of considerable developement; and first, it is a serious question, but very necessary to be asked, what are the documents usually transmitted from India relating to accused Indian servants, on which it is the usual practice of the court to decide?" are they documents all on one side? are they all ex parte statements against the accused, and nothing in his behalf, unaccompanied by any justification or defence? in a word, are they usually, or have they before in any one instance been, such documents as those on which the late chairman brought forward and prevailed on the court of directors to adopt the memorable resolution of the 5th of December, 1809?

"No. It is an undeniable fact, for the truth of which we can appeal to the late chairman himself, that the governments in India do strictly attend to the court's just and considerate orders, to furnish the accused with a copy of the accusation, and give him a reasonable time to make his defence, and to proceed in all such cases with the utmost circumspection and lenity. Sometimes (indeed very commonly) they appoint a committee to investigate all the circumstances, and report on the whole case; then if the result be unfavourable to the accused, and the government feel it their duty to suspend them, they send home to the court of directors copies of all their proceedings on the subject, including every thing alleged against and in favour of the accused servant, and in such documents the court have before them all that is necessary to enable them to form an impartial judgment; but even then, if the accused servant comes to England, there is not an instance we believe in the court's records, of his having been dismissed before he had given in a memorial to the court, and that memorial had been calmly and dispassionately considered; they do not send for him home to be examined, but being suspended, he generally comes without being sent for. In deciding too, the court have generally borne in mind, that suspension from the service by a government in India until the pleasure of the court of directors shall be known, is of itself a severe punishment, even supposing the court to enter on the consideration of the case immediately on the receipt of the dispatches, and to send out orders for the removal of the suspension by the earliest opportunity; as a year at least must elapse before the orders can be received, and in the mean while the accused must remain in a state of suspension, and without office or emolument.

The next passage in the letter I must quote at full length.

"Where servants come home, as in the present case, under suspension by any of the governments abroad, whatever defence or information they produce here which they did not produce in India, can only be of the nature of ex parte evidence; the governments abroad have no means of knowing or answering it, unless it be transmitted to them; whereas, to try a cause between parties fairly, the one party should hear what the other advances, and the court, though they do well to reserve the power of final judgment in all cases to themselves, can seldom exercise it safely or satisfactorily, except on evidence which their governments have had an opportunity of knowing and meeting."

The former part of this passage has, in part, been already replied to; the latter part would go to the permitting the Madras government to profit by their own wrong, and for an indefinite time preclude from redress the party suffering under it. The late chairman must be aware that the Madras government suspended the officers from the service, without calling upon them for any defence, or instituting any enquiry, or complying with their request to be furnished with the authority or evidence on which they had been condemned; and now after having listened to, and been implicitly guided by, the ex parte statements, public and private, of the Madras government; after having solely on those statements pronounced the officers worthy of dismission; is it

quite fair to advance against the officers, and in favour of the government, that whatever defence or information they (the officers) produce here, which they did not produce in India, can only be of the nature of ex parte evidence." We readily concur in the principle the letter lays down, that "to try a cause between parties fairly, the one party should hear what the other advances;" and I confidently, but respectfully, invite the late chairman to state in what instances, or in what single instance, while he continued to fill the chair (the case of lieutenant-colonel Martin excepted) the suspended officers were allowed the benefit of this rule: I desire to bring to his recollection, that upwards of a year ago, even private letters from Sir George Barlow to lord Minto, (transmitted by his lordship to the secret committee) containing accusations expressed in terms of extreme severity against two of the suspended officers, were brought forward by him (the late chairman) and read in court; and it was in vain submitted to him on that, and other occasions, that the officers accused should be made acquainted with every thing that had been alleged against them, but that it has only been within these few weeks, that those officers, or one of them, have been made acquainted with the charges and allegations contained in those private letters.

"In the next paragraph, which closes the defence of the resolution of the 5th December, is advanced in qualified terms, a doctrine which I had heard ascribed to the late chairman, but did not imagine he would think it expedient publicly to avow in a written document; namely, the doctrine, that the company's officers bear the same relation to the company, that in private life a servant bears to his master, and may be dismissed, or, as the letter more delicately expresses it, "his services be dispensed with," without assigning any cause; and however tender he (the master) may chuse to be of exercising this right, occasions may occur on which it may plainly be his duty to proceed to that exercise." And then the letter of course assumes that the case of the suspended officers afforded one of those occasions; and that the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, was just and proper as being necessary for the purpose of giving a decided support to the civil government. If the late chairman had advanced this doctrine only in his private capacity, or merely as his private opinion, I should not presume to gainsay or question it; but considering him as advancing and acting upon it, in the capacity of the chairman and organ of the court, I solemnly disclaim, and protest against the doctrine: as an individual member of the court, I desire not only to disclaim any share in such a power as it claims for the court, but to declare, that in my opinion the men who might be found to serve the company on such a footing as the doctrine would assign to them, would be very different from those who have added India to the British empire. Possibly, when the late chairman advanced the doctrine in question, he may have forgotten that each of the company's officers in India holds also a commission from his majesty; the recollection of which may incline him to think them entitled to somewhat more of his respect.

"The letter proceeds to state, that "some of those who have espoused the cause of the officers, seem to have censured the court for having so long delayed to carry their recorded intention of dismission into effect; but surely those who complain of the suspension of the officers as severe, cannot with consistency think it matter of accusation that those officers have not been dismissed."

"Here the late chairman seems to have forgotten the pains which he employed through many laborious pages to convey the idea that the resolution of the 5th December expressed only an opinion. As to the having espoused the cause of the officers, whatever is meant to be conveyed in the expression, the members of the court who delivered the dissents, I am sure are conscious that, in the part they have taken, and in the principles they have maintained, the cause they espoused has been that of the honour and character of the court of directors, and the welfare of the company.

"It would be hardly necessary to notice the late chairman's pleasantry in imputing to us the having made it "matter of accusation, that the officers had not been actually dismissed;" but that it affords an opportunity of stating that the suspended officers being all arrived, and ready to enter on their defence, we wished their cases to be taken up, and the late chairman to call on the court to proceed to the act to which the resolution of the 5th December had pledged them, for the very reason that it was always conjectured had made the late chairman averse to the experiment, and inclined to delay the discussion; namely, that the court having had further time to reflect, and having now the means of hearing the officers in their defence, a majority might be disinclined to fulfil the pledge, or go to the extreme length of severity to which the late chairman wished to lead them.

"On the very different reasons which, in several succeeding pages, the letter states to have "superseded, during the remainder of the direction of 1809, the execution of what the letter now again calls the court's intention expressed on the 5th December, I forbear to comment; but hasten to defend myself and my two absent ex-colleagues already mentioned, from the charge endeavoured to be established against us of inconsistency, in having opposed the resolution of the 5th December, and urged delay in order that the officers might be heard in

their defence, and on the 4th of April proposed or supported a resolution for their being restored to the service without a trial or investigation. After the ample explanation of our motives given on the 4th of April, in the protest of four directors, and particularly in the 6th paragraph of that protest, I venture to think that a very plain and unsophistical statement will suffice to shew both the consistency and rectitude of the procedure thus questioned, and to enable every discerning and impartial mind to determine on which side the charge of inconsistency must rest. On the 5th December passed the memorable resolution, and within a few weeks after arrived the alarming advices from Ceylon, and at length from Madras, intelligence of the actual revolt of the officers of the Madras army; that guilty extremity which the summary suspensions and removals of the 1st of May had so materially contributed to produce: with the intelligence of the actual revolt arrived also that of its suppression, and the proclamation by the governor-general of a general amnesty (with certain exceptions) to all the officers who had been concerned in it: an amnesty not "in the narrow spirit of mere pardon, but a total and sincere oblivion." We hoped that the conduct of the court would have been in the spirit of that great, and as far as related to the amnesty (without the exceptions) in our opinion, wise and judicious measure. We had little apprehension that the receipt of the intelligence of it would be followed by orders, and paragraphs full of tauntings and upbraidings of the most exasperating description; all calculated to keep or tear open every wound, to perpetrate irritation and estrangement, and render oblivion impossible. We fancied that even those, if there could be any who wished that blood had flowed on the scaffold, would now see the wisdom of following up and rendering effectual the line of conduct which the governor-general had decided upon; and we felt that nothing could tend more directly and completely to promote that object, than the restoring to the service those officers whose summary suspension had been a leading cause of all the mischief: above all, we knew that even admitting all contained in the ex parte statements against the suspended officers to have been unexaggerated, and that no defence or justification could be offered; under even these admissions, we knew that the utmost extent of their offences was innocence itself, compared with those which had been forgiven; and that, in fact and truth, they had already suffered very severely for whatever errors they had committed. We knew also, and were sorry to know, that from the period of our receiving lieutenant-colonel Martin's answer and defence, which he had been enabled to give by having been furnished with copies of the charges and allegations against him, the chairman had resisted the application of the other suspended officers, as they successively arrived; for the same means of making their defence and the endeavours of members of the court to obtain for them that justice, had been made in vain. We knew al so that recently, namely the 24th of March, the chairman, although he had four months before thought himself so fully possessed of the cases of the suspended officers as to justify his urging their dismission, had, on being questioned on the subject in a general court of proprietors, assigned as a ground for the continued delay in deciding on their cases, "that the court of directors were in expectation of further information respecting them." It was therefore manifest, that the chairman intended to prolong the anxiety and sufferings of the suspended officers for an indefinite period of time. In addition to these considerations, the direction of 1809-10 was about to close; and six members of the court, who had been present at all the discussions on the cases of the suspended officers, and a majority of whom had with us shewn themselves adverse to the rigorous sentiments of the chairman, were about to retire by rotation."

"Such is the plain statement of the motives and grounds on which a proposition was on the 4th of April last offered to the court, by one of those of our ex-colleagues to whom I have alluded, and seconded by another, for the restoration of the suspended officers. I might have limited myself to the stating merely, that on the 5th of December we urged delay, and that for the sake of the court, as well as for the sake of the suspended officers; because they were then absent and unheard, and we saw the disposition of the chairman to dismiss them without waiting to hear what they could offer in their defence; and we deprecated delay when they were all on the spot, and had supplicated to be heard, and committed their cause to the impartial justice of the court; and when, subsequently, we heard an avowed intention to delay the subject of the suspended officers indefinitely, and such a reason assigned for it as that of the court's expecting further information, of which expectation we, as members of the court, had till then been perfectly ignorant, (and I am at this moment ignorant upon what authority it was built) we readily determined to make an effort to bring the whole matter to a decision, by a motion in court for the removal of the suspensions. I trust, that from this explanation it will be evident, that in having urged delay in December, and deprecated it in April, and at length when we saw that further and indefinite delay was the chairman's object, adopted a proceeding calculated to put an end to it, there was every thing of an opposite character to inconsistency.

The late chairman has alluded, with severity, to our ascribing to him personally in the dissent of the 11th April, what had be-

come the acts of the court; and certainly, in point of legal technical form, it would have been more correct, if, in the instances to which he alludes, instead of saying "the late chairman," the dissent had said, the court, at the instance of the late chairman. His great talents and extensive local knowledge and experience must, under any circumstances, while he filled the elevation of chairman, give him a decided and predominant influence; but the alarm and anxiety which the first intelligence of the agitations at Madras naturally produced, made the court look to him with more than ordinary confidence; and I believe he will not deny that all the measures which the court adopted at that time were, morally speaking, his measures.

The inaccuracy which the letter points out in the expression applied in the protest of the 11th of June, to the examinations that Sir George Barlow held before him respecting the suspended officers, namely, that his exclusive object was not the discovery of innocence, I fully acknowledge; the obvious meaning of the directors who signed that dissent, would certainly have been better expressed by stating, that the exclusive object of the examination alluded to, seemed to them to have been the discovery of guilt; and although the observation, that "the proper object of the enquiries of all Judges is the discovery of truth," is not absolutely novel, I am not the less inclined to acknowledge its perfect correctness.

In respect to the observation, that "the dissent (of the 11th of April) insinuates the measure of representing the conduct of general Mac Dowall to his Majesty, to have been "precipitate;" I can undertake to declare that in the passage of the dissent alluded to, the authors of it intended nothing like insinuation, and that, however defective the language may have been, their meaning was plainly to avow it as their opinion, that a less exceptionable course for the court to pursue, would have been, to wait until the unfortunate general should be on the spot to answer for himself, and then to have furnished him with copies of all charges and allegations advanced by Sir George Barlow against him, and of the complaint which we intended to institute upon them to the king. I am perfectly aware that all those documents would have been open to him without our interference, but we should have wished him to experience that liberal procedure from the court of directors.

With respect to the remark, that the amnesty of lord Minto does not appear to have had the effect of conciliating the army, I am sensible of the fact, and should the cause be at any time a subject of enquiry, shall not shrink from the duty of stating my impressions concerning it.

The letter observes, that "there is another important point which has not been touched upon in the dissent, namely, how the credit and authority of the civil government, is to be preserved against military encroachments?" I answer, by the same means which, according to my firm conviction, will always prevent any disposition to encroach or render it innoxious if entertained. By a system of rule that shall be founded on the pure principles of the British constitution, have regard to British feelings, and evince a knowledge of the British character; that shall unite beneficence with firmness, and conciliation with dignity; by selecting for governors, men who possess the qualities that gain the hearts, without losing the respect of the governed; that enable them to vindicate their own rights without forgetting what is due to others, and place them above the dangerous weakness of imagining that a distant and extensive government can be happily or safely administered, and willing obedience permanently secured, by the mere arm of legal power, or the technical force of recognized authority: in a word, by that system of rule, and by those qualities in the ruler, which made Cornwallis in India the object of universal reverence and esteem, alike with soldier and civilian, native and European, prince and peasant; which enabled him to effectuate every beneficial purpose, whether of policy or finance, of salutary reform or military achievement, without estranging any mind, or exciting a single murmur throughout the vast continent over which he presided. In this one and only gratifying part of my present task, I can anticipate the approbation, even of the late chairman, who (no subsequent occurrences can make me forget) obtained for the company a renewal of the services of that illustrious character; a benefit which, though of short duration, was of inestimable value.

I have now most sincerely to apologize to the court for this long trespass on their time. I trust, however, they will clearly perceive that the letter in question left me no option but to reply to it, or to acknowledge, by my silence, the correctness of its various statements, and the observations and strictures which it applies to the conduct of the four directors who signed the dissent of the 11th of April last, and to the part which they felt it their duty to take, on a subject which, in whatever light it can be viewed, whether as it relates to the interests of the company, or to the credit of the court of directors, they considered to be of the most vital importance.

The late chairman may possibly again question the propriety of attributing to him, personally, so prominent a share in the proceedings and measures herein alluded to; I wish, therefore, distinctly to state

that, as the organ of the court, I think his public conduct fairly open to the candid examination and discussion of all its members, and that my observations are applied only to facts and proceedings which I myself witnessed. I am far from arraigning his intentions in any of those proceedings; but I must always think that he has seen the conduct of the Madras government with a partial bias towards it, which has controlled his judgment and opinions in every case in which that government is a party, and against every person whom it has accused: and although that bias is, I doubt not, imperceptible to himself, it threatens not the less to prove deeply injurious to the public interests.

Regretting, as I do most sensibly, the necessity which has compelled me to this trespass on the time of the court, and determined, as far as may depend on myself, to avoid a repetition of it, I will avail myself of this occasion to allude very briefly to a paper of 208 pages, delivered into the court by the late chairman in October last (and when I was unavoidably absent,) and to which are also the signatures of the late deputy chairman and six other directors, and of two ex-directors. By a residence of twenty-three years on the coast of Coromandel, and the having been employed for the most part, during that period, on stations that gave me a near view of the general conduct of the company's officers, and an acquaintance with many of them of every rank, I am enabled to declare, that I consider them as a body of men wholly undeserving of the opprobrium and severe reflections bestowed upon them in that paper. Instead of the spirit there imputed to them of insubordination, systematic combination, and a tacit persuasion that they had "the power not only of overawing, but of overturning the government," their uniform object seemed to me to be the acquirement of honour and distinction, by a zealous discharge of their duty, both in war and peace: in the field, not less by submitting to almost unexampled privations, than by deeds of consummate bravery: and in garrison and cantonment, by that strict and uniform attention to the welfare and discipline of their corps, which made the Madras army victorious through a long series of campaigns, from the days of Lawrence and Clive, to the campaigns of Marquis Cornwallis, Sir Arthur Wellesley, and general Harris. Nor did I at any time perceive, in the Madras officers, a more than fair and rational desire of rank and emolument; of which, indeed, the first is naturally, and, for the public fortunately, the ruling object with every soldier; and I am not aware that the second is more sought for by military men than it is by every other order in the state. I must also question the fairness of bringing forward individual instances of intemperate conduct or unreasonable expectations manifested by five or six officers out of 16 or 1700; and which, even supposing no ground to have existed for their complaints, would form no just criterion upon which to fix the character of an army, when the writer of the paper in question stated, "it has long been our conviction, that the spirit and principles by which the sedition of the officers was incited and impelled, had their origin at an early period." It had been well to have specified the length or period of time to which he meant to refer, as the expression, in its present form, cannot fail to give pain to many officers, who thought they had returned to this country with unsullied fame, and felt it no reproach to have belonged to the Madras army. What I have here stated was no more than barely due to the sentiments I have always entertained of the Madras officers, and I lament only that they have not an advocate more competent to the task of doing justice to their merits and eminent services.

I have the honour to be, &c.

Gentlemen,

Your faithful humble servant,

(Signed) J. Huddleston.

India House,
26th March, 1811.

At a Court of Directors, held on Friday, the 5th April, 1811.

The chairman acquainting the court that it had been specially summoned to take into further consideration the cases of the suspended Madras officers; and

The court's resolutions of the 26th ultimo, relating to the said officers, being read,

It was moved,

That the court, having resumed the consideration of the several cases of the officers of the Madras establishment, now at home under suspension, are of opinion, that the offences of which major De Morgan has been adjudged to be guilty by the court's resolutions of the 26th of last month, would have justified his removal from the company's service, and would have compelled the court to adopt this determination, if his case had stood disconnected from other circumstances. Subsequent events, however, which the court have maturely considered, dispose them to allow of a more favourable result; namely, first the influence of very general evil example at Madras early in 1809, and the contagion arising from this source; and secondly, the extent of the amnesty granted by the governor-general (with some exceptions only) to the whole of the Madras army, as published on the 25th September, 1809, which, though it could not extend to the interruption of the judgment of this court on the conduct of

the officers suspended on the 1st May, 1809, and referred home for decision, may have been considered by some persons to have embraced them in the spirit of the measure; and finally, the possibility that the intended memorial to lord Minto might have been abandoned by the officers, from their conviction of its criminal nature and tendency, but of which the court regret that no proof whatever exists.

It is therefore

Resolved, "that the suspension imposed on major De Morgan be removed, but that he shall only be permitted to return to India whenever this court shall have declared their opinion, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which it is the paramount duty and determination of this court at all times to give to the civil authorities.

It was then moved, to amend the said question, by leaving out all the words after the word "that," in order to introduce in lieu thereof, the following words; viz.

"Major De Morgan be reprimanded, by the authority of the court, in the following terms:

The court of directors have maturely considered the whole of the circumstances which have produced your suspension from the honourable company's service, and have determined certain parts of your conduct to be highly reprehensible; but the court having resolved to act in the spirit of the general amnesty which was published at Fort St. George on the 25th September, 1809, which proposes on the part of the government "a total and sincere oblivion of the past, and a full restoration of confidence and esteem," has resolved to refrain all details which might render necessary the language of animadversion and reproach; and to limit the expression of its disapprobation to a formal reprimand, conformed to the true spirit of amnesty; and you are hereby reprimanded accordingly.

"In announcing to you the further determination of the court, for the removal of your suspension, and the permission to return to India at such time as the court may hereafter direct, they cannot permit themselves to doubt that the spirit of leniency and conciliation in which this decision is announced, will ensure from you a corresponding spirit of gratitude and respect, and a zealous, sincere, and onourable devotion to the intersts of the East India company."

It was then moved,

"That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question;"—

And the same being put by the ballot,—

It passed in the affirmative.

Whereupon it was

Resolved by the ballot, that the court, having resumed the consideration of the several cases of the officers of the Madras establishment, now at home under suspension, are of opinion that the offences of which major De Morgan has been adjudged to be guilty, by the court's resolutions of the 26th of last month, would have justified his removal from the company's service, and would have compelled the court to adopt this determination, if his case had stood disconnected with other circumstances; subsequent events, however, which the court have maturely considered, disposed them to allow of a more favourable result; namely, first, the influence of a very general evil example at Madras early in 1809, and the contagion arising from this source; and secondly, the extent of the amnesty granted by the governor-general (with some exceptions only) to the whole of the Madras army, as published on the 25th September, 1809; which, though it could not extend to the interruption of the judgment of this court on the conduct of the officers suspended on the 1st May, 1809, and referred home for decision, may have been considered by some persons to have embraced them in the spirit of the measure; and finally, the possibility that the intended memorial to lord Minto might have been abandoned by the officers, from their conviction of its criminal nature and tendency, but of which the court regret that no proof whatever exists: and therefore,

That the suspension imposed on major De Morgan be removed, but that he shall only be permitted to return to India whenever this court shall have declared their opinion, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which is the paramount duty and determination of this court at all times to give to the civil authorities.

Another motion was made; viz.—

"The court are of opinion, that the offences of which captain Marshall has been adjudged to be guilty, by the court's resolutions of the 26th of last month, would have justified his removal from the company's service and would have compelled the court to adopt this determination, if his case had stood disconnected from other circumstances; subsequent events, however, which the court have maturely considered, dispose them to allow of a more favourable result; namely, first, the influence of very general evil example at Madras early in 1809, and the contagion arising from this source; and secondly, the extent of the amnesty granted by the governor general (with some exceptions only) to the whole of the Madras army, as published on the 25th September, 1809; which, though it could not extend to the interruption of the judgment

of this court on the conduct of the officers suspended on the 1st May, 1809, and referred home for decision, may have been considered by some persons to have embraced them in the spirit of the measure; and finally the possibility that the intended memorial to lord Minto might have been abandoned by the officers, from their conviction of its criminal nature and tendency, but of which the court regret that no proof whatever exists.

"It is therefore

"Resolved, that the suspension imposed on captain Marshall be removed, but that he shall only be permitted to return to India whenever this court shall have declared their opinion, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which it is the paramount duty and determination of this court at all times to give to the civil authorities.

Upon which,

It was moved to amend the said motion, by omitting all the words after the word, "that," in order to introduce the words,

"Captain Marshall be reprimanded by the authority of the court, in the following terms:—

"The court of directors have maturely considered the whole of the circumstances which have produced your suspension from the honourable company's service, and have determined certain parts of your conduct to be highly reprehensible; but the court having resolved to act in the spirit of the general amnesty which was published at Fort St. George on the 25th September, 1809, which proposes on the part of the government, "a total and sincere oblivion of the past, and a full restoration of confidence and esteem," has resolved to refrain from all details which might render necessary the language of animadversion and reproach; and to limit the expression of its disapprobation to a formal reprimand, conformed to the true spirit of amnesty; and you are hereby reprimanded accordingly.

"In announcing to you the further determination of the court, for the removal of your suspension, and the permission to return to India at such time as the court may hereafter direct, they cannot permit themselves to doubt, that the spirit of leniency and conciliation in which this decision is announced, will ensure from you a corresponding spirit of gratitude and respect, and a zealous, sincere, and honourable devotion to the interests of the East India company."

And the question thereon being put,—

"That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the said motion:"—

The same passed in the affirmative.

Whereupon it was

Resolved by the ballot, that the court are of opinion that the offences of which captain Marshall has been adjudged to be guilty, by the court's resolutions of the 26th of last month, would have justified his removal from the company's service, and would have compelled the court to adopt this determination, if his case had stood disconnected from other circumstances; subsequent events, however, which the court have maturely considered, disposed them to allow of a more favourable result; namely, first, the influence of very general evil example at Madras, early in 1809, and the contagion arising from this source; and secondly, the extent of the amnesty granted by the governor-general (with some exceptions only) to the whole of the Madras army, as published on the 25th September, 1809; which, though it could not extend to the interruption of the judgment of this court on the conduct of the officers suspended on the 1st May, 1809, and referred home for decision, may have been considered by some persons to have embraced them in the spirit of the measure; and finally, the possibility that the intended memorial to lord Minto might have been abandoned by the officers, from their conviction of its criminal nature and tendency, but of which the court regret that no proof whatever exists; and therefore, that the suspension imposed upon captain Marshall be removed, but that he shall only be permitted to return to India whenever this court shall have declared their opinion, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which it is the paramount duty and determination of this court, at all times, to give to the civil authorities.

A further motion being now made, viz.—

"The court are of opinion, that the offences of which lieutenant colonel Martin has been adjudged to be guilty by the court's resolutions of the 26th of last month, would have justified his removal from the company's service, and would have compelled the court to adopt this determination of his case, had it stood disconnected from other circumstances; subsequent events, however, which the court have maturely considered, disposed them to allow of a more favourable result; namely, first, the influence of a very general evil example at Madras, early in 1809, and the contagion arising from this source; and secondly, the extent of the amnesty granted by the governor-general (with some exceptions only) to the whole of the Madras army, as published on the 25th September, 1809; which, though it could not extend to the interruption of the judgment of this court on the conduct of the officers suspended on the 1st May, 1809, and referred home for decision,

may have been considered by some persons to have embraced them in the spirit of the measure; and finally, the possibility that the intended memorial to lord Minto might have been abandoned by the officers, from the conviction of its criminal nature and tendency; but of which the court regret that no proof whatever exists:

"It is therefore

"Resolved, that the suspension imposed on lieutenant-colonel Martin be removed, but that he shall only be permitted to return to India whenever this court shall have declared their opinion, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which it is the paramount duty and determination of this court, at all times, to give to the civil authorities."

It was moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "that," in order to introduce the words—

"Lieutenant-colonel Martin be now restored to the service, but that he be not permitted to return to India without the permission of the court expressed to him for that purpose."

The question being put by the ballot, that the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question;—

It passed in the negative.

Whereupon the question was put by the ballot, "that the proposed amendment "stand part of the question;"—

Which also passed in the negative.

A further motion was then made, and the question thereon being put;—

It was

Resolved by the ballot, that the court having taken into further consideration the case of lieutenant-colonel Martin, together with their resolution respecting that officer of the 26th March last, are of opinion that the evidence against him appears to be less clear and explicit than that which has been produced against the other officers lately under suspension, as far as relates to his having been concerned in the preparation of the intended memorial to lord Minto, whilst it seems proper here to allude to his having been, equally with major de Morgan, a party to the prosecution of lieutenant-colonel Munro; which manifests a spirit deserving of much repr hension; and therefore, that the suspension imposed on lieutenant-colonel Martin be removed, but that his return to India be dependant upon the declared opinion of the court, that the complete restoration of order and military subordination at Madras shall have rendered such a measure justifiable, and consistent with that support which it is the paramount duty and determination of this court, at all times, to give to the civil authorities.

It was then, on one other motion,

Resolved by the ballot, that captain James Grant, whose offence might have required a similar degree of punishment with major de Morgan and captain Marshall, be also, in consideration of the circumstances detailed in the resolutions passed on those officers, as far as they apply to his case, restored to the service, but that his return to India be subject to similar conditions.

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, the 9th April, 1811.

A letter from James Pattison, esq. late a member of this court, dated the 30th ultimo, containing observations and remarks upon a paper signed by the present and late chairman, read in court the 6th ultimo, was read; as was also

A letter from the chairman and Charles Grant, esq. dated this day, submitted in consequence of a letter from John Huddleston, esq. read in court on the 26th ultimo.

"Gentlemen,

"I take the liberty to intrude upon you, in consequence of my perusal of a paper recently delivered in by the late chairman and his deputy, dated the 28th February, 1811, which purports to be an answer to a dissent from a resolution of court of the 5th December, 1809; which dissent was delivered according to the regulations, within a fortnight after the discussion; and as those gentlemen both retire from the direction, by rotation, on the 10th April next, I hope I may be permitted to put in a few words by way of rejoinder, while they are yet members of the court; which for obvious reasons, I prefer to delaying it beyond that period, when I hope for the honour of re-admission myself.

"This paper, I contend, should not have been suffered to be put upon your records, though the effect of its reasoning is little to be dreaded, being, in my opinion, a vain attempt to do away the evident sense and only possible construction of the sentence from which I had the honour to dissent. I shall briefly state my reasons against the admission of this document, and then shall comment with equal brevity on what I conceive to be its errors in point and reasoning.

"On general grounds such papers are objectionable; because protests, or dissents, should ever be the final papers on the record. Such is the usage of the most dignified assembly in the world; and such, I understand has been, till of late years, the practice of the court of directors. But fine-drawn and lengthened discussions, and protracted and diffuse declamation, often contradictory in its several parts, and consequently capable of various constructions, have taken place of short and pithy reasoning; and much mischief has arisen from the change. The truth of this is sufficiently evinced by the result of the Vellore discussions; during which protracted by

repeated individual appeals, every strong post taken up by the court has been abandoned, one by one, till the only guilty party left, appears to be the court itself, now charged most unjustly with the sacrifice of innocence at the shrine of popular clamour.

"The dissent of individuals is the only mode they possess of recording their opinions when left in a minority. Those of the majority stand on the solid ground of success, and should need no such bolsters as are now attempted in supererogation. The recorded act, and the recorded dissent, stand each on its respective merits. But if the meanings and expressions of the authors of dissents are to be subject to the cavil of their successful adversaries, the latter, if unrefuted, would usurp the privilege due to the former. Rejoinders, if resorted to, would produce rebutters: sur-rebutters would ensue; and new terms must be invented to describe the protraction of paper controversy, to which pertinacity in opinion might subject the court.

"If these reasons are of any weight generally, what must be their force when applied in opposition to the special case of the Paper in question, produced 14 months after the dissent? Every feature of the transactions debated, has twice changed its aspect: and reasonings are therein upheld by facts not in possible contemplation when the dissents were written. If such monstrous births as this are tolerated by the court, it is high time to bring in some statute of limitations, in order to regulate how many months may be allowed as a reasonable term for bringing forth a legitimate answer to a dissent, which itself is limited in gestation to a fortnight.

"The paper in question, while it declares the dissents liable to very easy refutation, is itself a very vulnerable production. Where the foundation is unsound, the superstructure, however imposing, cannot uphold itself. In opposition to the basis of this paper, namely, the assertion, that the resolution of the court of the 5th December, "that on a future day it would proceed to dismiss the suspended officers," was only an opinion, and that their dismission was, therefore, open to further discussion; I venture to appeal to the recollection of every member of the court then present, and to that (without any personality intended) of the chairman (Mr. Grant) who I believe was the author of the motion, whether some members of the court, myself one, did or did not earnestly supplicate him (the very words adopted) to change the construction of the resolution, so as to give it the sense with which it is now endeavoured to clothe it; whether the resolution to proceed to dismiss officers unheard, was, or was not, strongly deprecated by us as unjust and unwarrantable; and whether we did, or did not, urge our willingness to join the majority, if the court would content itself to declare it would discuss, on a future day, the question of dismission. If these things are remembered, what remains but an acknowledgment, that the sentence of guilty then passed the court, and that the day was reserved only for the criminals to receive judgment.

"The insuperable stumbling block of the 5th December, is the resolution to proceed to dismiss the officers unheard in their defence, and on *ex parte* statements. All the sophistry within the range of human faculties, cannot reduce this into an opinion, nor into a resolution to discuss what it is expressly declared the court will proceed to do on a future day.

The first reason, the paper states, for the resolution of the 5th December, is the notoriety of the existing insubordination of the Madras army, and the necessity of the strong support to the civil government—Good. But were the simple allegations of that government, backed by the secret examination and imperfect depositions of obscure individuals, to be received all as gospel, while that government was itself a party in the question, from the belief pretty generally entertained, that the mischief owed its origin to the intolerant spirit displayed in the exercise of its authority? Were the officers, the suspension of whom was one of the causes of ferment, to undergo from the court the further and final sentence of dismission, unheard, with a view to ensure respect to that government?"

"The second reason is a curious one—because the Madras government recommended this act, or exercise of power, to the court—good again; nothing more natural! as the acquiescence of the court, making them accessaries to the act, if an unjust one, would rank and confound them with the principals—and forsooth the court, says this reason, was pledged by its letter of 29th September, to the serious consideration of the act of dismission.—Was this pledge, so considered and understood, to extend to the passing of the sentence of dismission without a hearing?

"The third reason applies to the justification of the conduct of the Madras government on the question of the suspension, and not at all to the court's resolution to dismiss; and is but little relevant to the point in dispute.

"The fourth reason would fain infer, that as the officers had not made a distinct denial at Madras, of the main fact of which they were accused, namely, either preparing or signing seditious writings, (a disjunctive very useful, as affording two charges in one) of which cause of their suspension it is alleged they were not ignorant, but of which it is certain they were never officially informed before the 1st of May, and then by the general orders alone; their silence may be construed in support

of the evidence on which the government acted. Is it possible that such strained reasoning could have governed the court, in a question involving the fame and fortune of individuals who have distinguished themselves in our service? To justify the suspension under the peculiar circumstances of the Madras government, were an easy task, compared with an apology for the resolution to dismiss on the 5th December. The agitation of so critical a period is a good plea to extenuate error in the one case; prompt decision, it is justly said, was there and then necessary. Suspension was resorted to, and had even dismission been adopted, the crisis would still have been a plausible plea. But in vain should we seek for such a plea for the court, sitting in judgment, so far from the seat of mischief, on officers removed from the possibility of co-operation with the army. Was prompt decision necessary here also, to the extent of not allowing time for defence?

"The fifth reason is a masterpiece of involuntary self-detection. It argues the general practice of the court in deciding on questions relating to their accused servants, even when at home; and urges, that whatever defence they produce here, which they produced not in India, can only be of the nature of *ex parte* evidence; and says, truly says, that "to try a cause fairly, the one party should hear what the other advances." If this reasoning be true, and it is consonant, strictly so, with reason and justice, how can it be made to apply to defence only, and not to accusation also? Can *ex parte* accusation be just, and *ex parte* defence unjust? Are they not both clearly, incontestibly, unjust? Moreover, no defence nor opportunity to it, having been allowed in India, can the absence of it be twisted into a necessity to deny it here also? And can the close of this most extraordinary reasoning be considered admissible, which puts the question by parallel, as between master and servant, when it is in fact a point at issue between servant and servant *coram judice*.

"If such were the reasons for the resolution of the 5th December, greatly do I rejoice to have dissented from it; and the endeavour to give to this measure the half-recollected sanction of the president of the board of controul, and the collateral aid of the doctrine inculcated by the governor-general, received long after the discussion, (and which is, in fact, no more than a truism) form a masterly peroration to this incomparable series of reasons.

The delay to pass sentence, which took place from December to April, is well accounted for. The standard of revolt was unfurled, and minor considerations were for a time swallowed up. Yet one may fairly enquire, why the arguments ceased to operate during that period, which inculcated (as alleged in the first reason for the act of the 5th December) the necessity of prompt and decisive support to the government of Madras. Surely, in consistency with such reasoning, this was the moment for fulminating dismissions. But I am inclined to believe that doubts had, in the interim, begun to arise in the minds of some of the supporters of the resolution of the 5th December, as to its expediency and practicability, and, possibly, as to its justice.

"The authors of the dissents, when the happy tidings arrived of the termination of the most unnatural rebellion that is to be found on the record of any civilized country, hailed the auspicious moment as a harbinger of peace here also; and though the suspended officers would have spurned an amnesty, which, as the paper justly says, implies previous guilt, they could not but be aware of the critical circumstances of their respective cases; and in the view of the possibility, that having erred to a certain extent, they could not expect entire justification, and would be content to enjoy the advantages of an act of clemency and oblivion, the motion of the 4th April, was devised without communication, direct or indirect, with any one of them.

"The reasonings adduced in the paper against the motion I had the honour to bring forward, for restoring the officers to their rank and regiments, and against the dissents from the previous question which got rid of the motion, are, in my opinion, mere abstract views, and do not apply practically. The introduction, however, into the paper of the substance of an amendment, which was withdrawn because untenable, as arguments against the motion, must be noticed as a novelty curious in itself, and of a piece with what is said to have been the understanding of the court, though not formally minuted, namely, the intention to reconsider the whole case. The truth is, that the case of the suspended officers in April, 1810, was complete in all its parts. Nothing could be expected to mend it; and the strongest adherence to the resolution of the 5th December, could not have excited a wish that matter might arrive to mar it. In fact, nothing material has, I believe, arrived to affect it. If by an act of clemency, evincing a conciliatory spirit, the court had avoided the investigation of alleged, but unproved guilt; that guilt, even though it had been proved trivial in comparison with the atrocities forgiven by lord Minto; what a sea of troubles would have been avoided! Courts of directors summoned repeatedly to be governed in their decisions by the lot; loss of time within doors; great discontent and agitation without; Feuds and ill blood perpetuated here and in India! such are, in part, the evils which

might have been avoided by the adoption of the summary method recommended; which, like the sword of the conqueror, would have cut the knot, which experience has since shewn, no effort could untie. It may be called begging the question, to say that the result of its adoption would have been so highly favourable. But no question is begged by the assertion, that the court has been involved in protracted schism and warfare, of which the termination is still perhaps far distant, by the determination adopted to investigate and decide upon the cases of the suspended officers respectively, upon such wretched evidence and vague charges as those furnished by the government of Madras.

"I shall take up no more of your valuable time, but remain,

"Gentlemen,

"Your most obedient,

"Humble servant,

(Signed) "J. PATTISON."

Old Jewry,
30th March, 1811.

To the hon. the Court of Directors
of the East India company.

"To the Honourable Court of Directors,
&c. &c. &c.

"Gentlemen,

It is with extreme reluctance that we think of continuing the discussion, to which Mr. Huddleston has returned in the paper he has addressed to the court under date 26th of March. We should have conceived one attack, and one reply, to be sufficient. If there is to be no limit to controversies of this nature, much of the time and records of the court may be very inconveniently engrossed. As, however, some of the topics on which Mr. Huddleston has touched in the rejoinder wherewith he has been indulged, are of public importance, and the opinions or assertions he has advanced upon them, are in our apprehension erroneous; we trust, especially as our silence might be misinterpreted, that we shall be permitted to make a few observations upon them.

It will be our endeavour to be succinct, and to pass over every thing that is not material, however open it may seem to reply.

First, with respect to the resolution of the 5th December, 1809, Mr. Huddleston maintains, that it pledged the court to the dismission of the suspended officers. We say, it expressed an opinion upon the conduct of those officers, and an intention to act in consonance to that opinion, by proceeding to the act of dismission on a future day: but both the opinion and the intention are plainly to be contradistinguished from the act of dismission itself. We say further, that neither any expressed opinion or intention nor even any act of the court can pledge a future court to proceed in conformity to such opinion, intention, or act; that if the subject of dismissing the officers had been afterwards resumed conformably to the resolution of the 5th December, the question to have been put respecting every one of them seriatim, must have been "that A, B, C, D, &c. be dismissed the company's service;" that such a question must necessarily have left the whole merits of the case of each individual open to re-discussion, and might have been met by the previous question, by an amendment, or by direct opposition to the main question; and universally to imagine that one court can pledge a future court to any act or measure, is an idea as singular as that of expunging any resolution of court after it has been regularly confirmed; a proceeding of which the honourable member seems to have expected the adoption, in respect to the resolution of the 5th December, above a year after it had passed; a proceeding too which would be liable to the most serious objections, and of which we believe there is no example. In conclusion, the intention of proceeding to dismission, the resolution itself of our late minute, have broadly avowed, but the material point for which we contend is, that the said resolution remained open to subsequent debate, and to alteration; whereas the notion of a pledge implies the contrary, a notion too with which the whole proceeding of the court since that time, is at variance.

It was to the resolution of the 5th December, as it passed the court and stood on record that we were called to speak, not the proceeding to which any particular members might have previously inclined; and it is for measures, as they are finally settled, that the members who concur in them are responsible; not for all ideas and opinions they may before have entertained concerning them, and perhaps, too, in the course of discussion, have given up.

The intimation introduced into the dissent of the 11th April, 1810, of which the honourable gentleman (Mr. Huddleston) appears to have been the penman, that the then chairman had originally proposed to proceed to the act of dismission on the 5th December, appeared to the latter to be a mere personality, immaterial in itself and to any public consideration of the subject, if not an attack upon the freedom of opinion. He, therefore, not having occasion to notice that paper till long afterwards (though then he was called to do so), hopes he shall be pardoned for thinking that this intimation, with other things of the like nature, might be passed over in silence. If he adverts to the repetition in the honourable gentleman's late letter, it is because some new use is made of it, and lest continued silence might be misconstrued. The temper manifested towards him, in the controversial writings of the last year or two, certainly affords him no great encouragement to be free in needless admission,

concerning the details of debates, of the whole of which he has not a distinct recollection. He has no hesitation, however, in saying that he was of opinion, in common with many other members, that it was proper, at that time to pass a vote of dismission on the suspended officers; and if this opinion, which he maintains has not yet been shewn to have been wrong, were entertained by him, could it be contrary to his duty to propose that measure? If, however, upon discussion in court, the opinions there delivered and the irregularity of proceeding to the act of dismission without formal notice, materially affected the decision of that day, what is hence proved, but that the decision was not the solitary dictate of one individual, as the honourable gentleman has intimated, but the legitimate offspring of public consultation?

The honourable gentleman, however, asks how the idea of dismissing the officers on the 5th December, when they had not been heard, is compatible with the declaration in our late letter, "that we were willing and desirous that every subsequent information which could throw light on the cause of the suspended officers, and every thing they had subsequently offered in their defence, should be fully weighed." This declaration was not made, as is clear from the letter itself, in reference to the state of things known to the court on the 5th December, 1809, as the honourable gentleman's language implies, but to the very different state of things known to them in the month of April, 1810. Not that we were at any time indisposed to hear whatever could be fairly advanced in behalf of the officers, but at the former period we saw no prospect of further material information; and where there was little hope, desire must have been proportionally inactive. But on the other hand, it was important that the court should not appear to hesitate in their support of the civil government, and in decided resistance to military insubordination. Such were our impressions early in December. We have stated, in our former letter, the vast changes that became known to the court in the course of four months afterwards, and the consequent alteration in the views of the court, as to the necessity of proceeding speedily against the suspended officers. In such very new circumstances, to decide immediately, either for dismission or for a more lenient course, appeared to be attended with difficulty. Further delay seemed, therefore, proper; and, as it was hardly practicable entirely to exclude, in the consideration of the cases of these officers, attention to what had recently passed in India and the trials which were going on there, as well as the inquiries making by the governor general, it might naturally be expected to throw additional light on the general subject of the disorders in the Madras army. This expectation animated our desire of further information from India, in order that such information, with the defences the officers had offered subsequent to their arrival in England, might be duly weighed. On the whole, it is plain, as the tenour of our preceding letter may have shewn, that the delay arose, in a certain degree, from apprehended inexpediency (justly apprehended, we think) under the new circumstances, of proceeding hastily to the act either of dismission or of qualified pardon.

It would seem that the present court of directors have felt the difficulties we have now described; for it was the month of October last before the court entered on the consideration of the cases of the suspended officers; and that consideration is with the exception of colonel Sentleger's case, which stands over for information from the supreme court at Madras, but just closed.

"After so mature a deliberation by a court of directors, in part differently composed from the last, and known to have materially disagreed with the last upon the Madras military questions, it becomes very interesting to attend to the decision to which they have come. And notwithstanding the confident manner in which the honourable gentleman, with other members of the direction, have advocated the cause of those officers; notwithstanding the aggravated accusations of the honourable gentleman in particular, against what he has termed the violation of the principles of natural justice and of the British law, both by the government of Fort St. George and the late court of directors, in judging and condemning, as he has affirmed, upon ex parte evidence, in a secret divan, without a trial or a hearing of the parties condemned (improper accusations, to which we have spoken elsewhere;) notwithstanding the measure contended for on the 4th April, 1810, of restoring those officers without trial or censure; notwithstanding the expectation and importance attached by the honourable member to the defences of the officers, a very large majority of the court have upon the evidence produced at Madras, and even upon the admissions of those gentlemen themselves, adjudged the greater part of them to have been guilty of acts worthy of dismission from the service, and have declared that they would have been compelled to have inflicted the punishment of dismission upon them, if the amnesty granted by lord Minto to officers who had been in actual revolt, had not, together with the general prevalence of insubordination early in 1809, induced the court to adopt a more lenient course.

"Thus it is at length established, that the government of Madras acted upon true

and sufficient information in their proceeding against those officers; that factious and inflammatory measures were then going on among the officers of the army; and it seems impossible to show, that where the insubordination was become general and great, as too many evidences have since proved, persons guilty of it could have been subjected to punishment by any other course on the part of government than the summary and vigorous one which it adopted, and which every government of decision must adopt in like cases. Thus, also, the court of directors are justified in the support they have given to the government of Madras, in respect to their conduct towards those officers; a support by which they have, in truth, upheld their own authority, and the stability of the British empire in India.

"Secondly. We shall advert to some things which the honourable gentleman has advanced on the past state of the Madras army and the means of preserving the authority of the civil government over the military body.

"He says, "that on the 5th of December, 1809, the court of directors were not in possession of any evidence or of any advices relating to insubordination or sedition, except the minute of sir G. Barlow of the 1st May, 1809, in which there is no allusion to any combinations or written communications between different divisions of the army; indeed it is impossible there could be any, for sir G. Barlow, in his subsequent dispatches, expressly states, that the system of combination was established throughout the army, after the Hydrabad officers had declared their participation in the feelings of their brother officers," &c. (which happened the 18th May, 1809.)

"Now, we did not at all mean to refer to the combinations formed at this time, and afterwards, on the open and avowed ground of resistance to the government, but to others less ostensible and of an earlier date, which, however, evidenced the existence of the principle of combination; a principle most dangerous in itself, to which the Indian armies have been accustomed, and which has always been the engine whereby great commotions have been produced in those armies.

"Of such combinations so much is said in a letter to the court, dated 10th September 1810, to which our signatures, with those of eight other directors, are affixed,* that we shall merely indicate them here.

"We have already stated," say the Madras government, with Mr. Petrie at their head, on the 21st of October, 1807, "that a very dangerous spirit of cabal has shown itself among several officers of your army. This feeling has been greatly inflamed by the impunity with which the honourable lieutenant-colonel Sentleger has hitherto been enabled to brave and insult the authority of this government."

"Every means of the most public nature have been taken at some of the principal military stations, to hold up lieutenant-colonel Sentleger as the champion of the rights of the company's army, and as one whose example calls for general imitation."

"Is this, as the honourable gentleman states, the case of a few officers only out of sixteen or seventeen hundred—(had he said thirteen or fourteen hundred it would have been more exact) when it speaks of some of the principal stations of the army, where every means of the most public nature were taken to hold up colonel Sentleger as one whose example called for general imitation? Is it not plainly the spirit of cabal and concert in active exercise? And can it be conceived that the principal station, who had thus an unity of action, had not also an understanding with each other?

"But what was the circulation to the different stations, for signatures of the memorial for Bengal allowances, which general Macdowall suppressed in May, 1808? What was the far more exceptionable memorial for many claims, which general Macdowall himself, at the request of the army, brought forward to government at the end of that year? And, not to speak of the combined attack on lieutenant-colonel Munro, what were the letters addressed to major Boles; the memorial addressed to the governor-general for the removal of sir G. Barlow, &c. what were all these but the acts of many officers, at various stations, combined, whose signatures could not have been obtained without communications between the different divisions of the army?

* "A paper, the length of which the honourable gentleman has taken occasion to mention, apparently in the way of censure." The paper was unavoidably long, because in answering six dissents, containing 114 foolscap pages, it went into a general review of the causes, progress, and issue of the revolt in the Madras army, with the merits of the parties concerned in it; and it seems that what originally consisted, with the appendix, of 103 demy pages, has in the honourable gentleman's foolscap copy extended to 208 pages. It will be found, however, that the whole of the writings on the side with which the honourable gentleman has acted, are more voluminous than those brought forward on our side. Part of those dissents which are opposed to our opinions, are distinguished by a quality which, to use the honourable gentleman's language, is "absolutely novel;" for the honourable writers have dissented to a measure which they voted for, and which could not have been carried without their concurrence. If this mode of dissenting was to become frequent, the inconvenience would indeed be great.

And what does the standing regulations quoted by general Macdowall against the officers in May, 1808, against combinations, but prove the preceding existence of the evil? all these instances were known when the resolution of the 5th December was passed. It is quite needless to enlarge on them, or to look further back. It must indeed, be obvious to an attentive examiner of the rise and progress of the late insubordination in the coast army, that combination was the vital principle and support of it, and the bond which kept the great body of the officers steady to each other till the last.

"And was it not the same principle which matured the mutiny of the Bengal officers in 1766, the commotion of 1785 in the Madras army, and the Bengal agitations of 1796, as well as the Madras revolt of 1809? The honourable gentleman writes as if no such thing as combination had existed among the officers of the coast army, till after the proceedings of the Madras government (or, as he thinks fit always to express himself, sir G. Barlow) on the 1st May 1809, had provoked them. We do not recollect ever to have seen this plainly advanced before, by any advocate of the officers. We appeal to the proofs of the contrary already adduced, particularly to the regulations of government, prohibiting combinations; and to the full and distinct statements in lord Minto's letter to the secret committee, of 5th February, 1810, written after he had been long employed in enquiries and reflection upon the subject. The letter of September, 1810, already mentioned, does indeed reckon among the remote predisposing causes of the late mutiny, the principle of combination, and a dissatisfaction on the score of military emoluments; but it does not ascribe these causes peculiarly to one set of men, or to one period; it deduces the causes themselves from the constitution and circumstances of our local Indian armies, and the principles of human nature. The honourable gentleman, however, is pleased to regard those observations only as throwing opprobrium and severe reflections on the officers of the Madras army, upon whom, from his own experience, he bestows the most unqualified eulogium for their uniform good conduct and spirit, both in war and peace. This mode of converting what is intended to be of general application, into a specific accusation of certain individuals or certain classes, appears to us to be contrary to fair reasoning, and injurious to the utility of discussion. That letter has no where intimated that the causes in question, or those others which it assigns as predisposing causes, were at all times actively operative; it has done justice to the military character of the Indian armies; to the personal qualities of very many of the officers, whose talents and services have illustrated the order to which they belonged; but, after all, a revolt which threatened the destruction of our Indian empire, is an event too momentous and too awful to be passed over without a free investigation into the causes of it; and those which have been assigned in the letter, are not held by the writers of it, but stand on the foundation of larger experience and information than the opportunities of the honourable gentleman could furnish. It must be pleasant to be on the popular side, and to bestow praise, which will gratify numbers; but our views of duty, and our sincere wishes for the lasting welfare of the Indian army itself, have enforced us, in concurrence with others, to the ungracious task of pointing out errors which we conceive have contributed to the most dreadful effects, in order to the avoidance of the like errors in future.

"The principle for which the officers appear to have of late contended, that they should lose the service only by the decision of their own body, involves, in fact, the establishment of an independent Military power, and eventually its supremacy. The honourable gentleman admits of the exercise of the power of dismissing officers without a trial by court martial; he will doubtless admit, also, of the power inherent in the company, of dismissing their civil servants, when they see cause. — This power may be misused; but, if it exists, it necessarily supposes the exercise of discretion. We wish the honourable gentleman, in his protest against some doctrine which he thinks he has discovered in our last letter on the subject, had shewn how the power could remain, if discretion in the exercise of it were taken away. We were shewing, in that letter, that the judgment and discretion of the company at home must, in various cases, be the final arbiters of the fate of their accused Indian servants, civil or military; because the "investigation of their conduct, by the same forms, pleadings, and evidence, as are required in our courts of law, is impracticable;" and we then added, "It is to be remembered, that the question in such cases is *much of the nature* of a question between master and servant, or superior and inferior." This passage the honourable gentleman applies exclusively to *military officers*; who, he says, "are thus made to bear the *same relation* to the company, that, *in private life*, a servant bears to his master, and may be dismissed without *assigning any cause*." — The expressions in italic in this quotation, are all material alterations from the original text, and make up the doctrine against which he protests; but of the objectionable nature of which, after all, no very definite idea is obtained. We have used the relation of master and servant, not in its lowest sense, but in a more general acceptation,

which comprehends the manner of its subsistence between public bodies and their functionaries. The king's officers are the king's servants: the company's officers are the company's servants—so are their governors, counsellors, and all their civil functionaries. We mean to claim no more discretion for the company, in judging and deciding on the fate of their Indian servants, than the king himself, according to the power vested in him by law, exercises with respect to his servants;—a power which the company have always exercised, and which the British conquerors of India were more exposed to feel, than the military or civil servants of the present day. But if a person appointed into the service of the company, were thereby to become possessed of a tenure, from which he could be ejected only by a course of law, the authority and prosperity of the master could be of no long duration.

"To a very important enquiry suggested in our last letter, "How the credit and authority of the civil government is to be preserved against military encroachment?" the honourable gentleman replies—"By a system of rule, founded on the pure principles of the British constitution; that shall have regard to British feelings, evince a knowledge of the British character; that shall unite beneficence with firmness, and conciliation with dignity; by selecting for governors men who possess the qualities that gain the hearts without losing the respect of the governed, &c. &c. In short, such a system of rule, and such qualities in the ruler, as made Cornwallis in India the object of universal reverence and esteem, alike with soldier and civilian, &c. &c."—Such a system of rule, he thinks, will always prevent any disposition to encroach, or render it innoxious, if entertained."

"We have an affectionate respect for the memory, the virtues, the achievements of marquis Cornwallis; but he was confessedly, a very uncommon character. The honourable gentleman's system does not tell us what is to be done if men of his rare union of qualities should not be to be found. Unfortunately, too, for the honourable gentleman's system, it is a well known fact, that marquis Cornwallis, with all his excellencies, when he projected reforms and improvements, or what he conceived to be such, in the Bengal army, became very unpopular with the officers of that army. The honourable gentleman's system fails us here too; it does not tell us what is to be done, when a man of the purest public principles, and the most inoffensive manners, in obedience to the dictates of his superiors, his duty, and his conscience, aims at reform, and when he thereby becomes unpopular, and finds his measures opposed. The component parts of the honourable gentleman's system of rule, doubtless, form a fine assemblage, and are set off with all the advantages of antithesis, but they are only abstract generalities; or, if they be regarded as so many elementary principles of a practical code (though some relate to the rule, some to the qualities of the ruler,) the whole difficulty, which consists in the formation of such a code, still remains. But there seems to be an essential error in the very conception and foundation of the honourable gentleman's system, namely, that certain transcendant qualities in the law, and in the governor, will always preserve the governed from doing wrong. We are again compelled, on this occasion, to refer to another truth, which, though it has not the recommendation of novelty, as few moral truths have, may also be entitled to the honourable gentleman's admission.

"All laws hitherto made for the government of human beings, have gone on a principle opposite to that of the honourable gentleman. They have supposed, that to retain men in just obedience to lawful authority, the provision and the employment of coercion and punishment were necessary. No doubt the administration of criminal law is to be tempered with prudence and mercy; no doubt that the largest possible portion of good qualities in the system of government, and in the character of the rulers, is most desirable; but it would follow, from the adoption of the honourable gentleman's system in our Indian empire, that the unpopularity of a government acting solely from public principle, really for the public good, and with a personal demeanour the most unexceptionable, would be sufficient to condemn and remove him; and if this were unhappily verified in practice, the gratification of the passions and interests of the governed might then become a leading object with their rulers.

"It has appeared from an early period of the disturbances at Madras, to have been the view of the officers, either to effect the removal of the governor, or control the government in certain objects. After advancing to the awful length of open revolt, they have been, by the wisdom and energy of the government itself, defeated in both objects, without the least sacrifice of the public authority or dignity. A most comprehensive amnesty followed, and real tranquillity might have been gradually restored, if the opposition to the government had not been transferred to this country, and actively renewed here. Many instruments and many means have been employed to prejudice the public mind against sir G. Barlow; to represent as the injured parties those, whose early spirit of insubordination contributed so much to all the dreadful evils that afterwards ensued; to throw into the shade even the enormities of actual rebellion; nay to ascribe the blame of it to him who was the means of saving the Indian empire from anarchy and destruction, and finally to bring about that object

which the officers originally sought, his removal from government. The propriety of such a measure has even been broadly asserted in this house. The re-action in India of all the opinions adduced, and the means used in England to decry sir G. Barlow and his conduct, may be expected to be great; the accomplishment of his removal would be the final triumph of the cause of opposition to government, and such a return for eminent public service would not only be a lasting disgrace to the country, but inflict an indelible wound on the authority of the civil power, and the interests of the company in India. We therefore take this opportunity of recording our solemn protest against all propositions calculated to produce such fatal effects.

"The honourable gentleman has ascribed to the late chairman a bias, imperceptible to himself, towards the Madras government. Exemption from all undiscerned bias and error, it is not, perhaps, the lot of humanity to possess, and it may be proper for every individual to be watchful against its influence; but the late chairman has stood in none of those relations or connections toward sir G. Barlow, or any member of the government, which most commonly and naturally bias the human mind; and he can honestly say, that in these Madras affairs he has acted under a deep and anxious sense of their extreme public importance, and with an earnest desire in all cases to serve the public interest.

"It remains only to speak to one point; the honourable gentleman has, throughout the whole of his present and preceding paper, allowed himself to treat certain acts of the court, and certain opinions delivered in papers addressed to the court by a number of Directors, as the acts and opinions of one individual; thus treating the rest as cyphers. Nothing can be more unjust in point of fact, and nothing more contrary to that decorum and respect which the members of the court ought to observe in all their proceedings towards the collective body, and towards each other. Those gentlemen with whom the late chairman had the honour to side in relation to the Madras disturbances, had each a substantive and decided opinion of his own upon every question that came before him, and acted according to his own judgment and conviction, under the responsibility attached to his office; and to represent public measures of the court which are to have the operation of laws in the Indian empire, as the measures of any one member of the body, is an intolerable license which the court itself is called upon to correct.

"The present chairman, much as he feels grateful to the honourable director for his desire to spare him, as far as possible, from the lash of his pen and the censure of his judgment, by considering the addresses alluded to, as the productions of and conveying the sentiments of the late chairman only (arising, as the chairman is persuaded, from that friendship which no difference on public matters has been able to destroy) still feels it incumbent on him to declare, that wherever his signature appears, there are his genuine sentiments expressed; and that however kindness to him has been the motive of the honourable gentleman for excluding him from his strictures, it may perhaps be a question, whether the chairman ought to consider himself flattered, or the contrary, by this desire to absolve him from nearly all the consequences of doctrines and declarations to which his name appears; in one instance the first signature, and in another the second: certainly the chairman is most desirous to ascribe, where it is justly due, to his late colleague, the ability and indefatigable industry which formed the basis of the reply and addresses in question; but it is not less the desire of the chairman to take to himself his full share of the demerits of those papers, and to give to others the credit for much unanswerable matter. Never has the chairman, he flatters himself, shrunk from responsibility of his acts or his signature; and whilst he acknowledges his many errors and faults, he never will add to them by the unworthy part of shifting to others any share of blame which ought to attach to himself.

"We are,
"Gentlemen,
"Your most obedient,
"humble servants,
(Signed) "WM. ASTELL.
"CHAS. GRANT."

"East India house,
9th April, 1811.

At a Court of Directors, held on Friday the 23d November, 1810:

The court, pursuant to their adjournment on the 20th instant, proceeding to take into consideration further proceedings as to the cases of the suspended Madras officers:

The under-mentioned particulars* were read; viz.

Extract of a general order by government, dated the 31st January, 1809.

Extract of general letters from Fort St. George, in the military department, dated the 31st January, 1809, and 3d February, 1809.

* Most of these papers have been inserted at length in the preceding volume, or are sufficiently explained in the opinions or dissents of the directors, inserted in the present volume.

General order by the commander-in-chief, lieutenant-general Macdowall, dated 28th January, 1809.

Extract of judge advocate general's letter to the government of Fort St. George, dated 20th February, 1809.

Extract letter from the governor general in council, to the government of Fort St. George, dated 20th February, 1809.

A memorial from major Boles to the court, dated the 23d February, 1809, with several enclosures.

Extract of general letter from Madras to the court, in the military department, dated 28th February, 1809.

Extract general letter to Fort St. George, in the military department, dated 15th September, 1809.

Minute of sir George Barlow, dated the 1st May, 1809.

Paper of authorities submitted by the judge advocate general, as to an officer being justified in yielding obedience to illegal commands of his superiors.

Letter from sir George Barlow to lord Minto, dated the 1st April, 1809.

Extract circular letter from major-general Gowdie, dated 10th April, 1809.

General orders, dated the 1st May, 1809.

Extract letter from the court of directors to the government of Fort St. George, in the military department, dated the 29th September, 1809.

Letter from the governor-general in council, to the Madras government, dated the 27th May, 1809.

Bengal secret consultations, dated the 16th March, 1789.

Madras military consultations, dated 3d February, 1809.

Extract letter from colonel St. Leger, to the secretary at Fort St. George, dated the 7th April, 1809.

Fort St. George secret consultations, dated the 9th, 30th, and 31st May, and 9th and 13th June, 1809.

Letter from the secretary at Fort St. George, to major Boles, dated the 14th June, 1809.

Bengal political consultations, dated the 29th July, 1809.

Minute of William Petrie, esq. first member of council at Fort St. George, dated the 8th September, 1809.

The court then adjourned further proceedings on the subject under consideration, till Tuesday next.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 28th November, 1810,

The court's attention being called to certain points connected with their proceedings on Tuesday last, upon the cases of the suspended Madras officers; and

The general letter to Fort St. George, dated the 7th May, 1778, paragraphs 12 and 13, being read;

Draft of a proposed letter* to the under-mentioned personages, transmitting to each, a copy of the said paragraphs, and requesting such information thereon as they may be severally enabled to give, was read and approved; viz.

To Colonel Malcolm,
Lord W. Bentinck,
Sir J. F. Cradock,
Lieut.-col. Pierce,
Lieut.-gen. J. Stuart,
Lieut.-gen. Harris, and
Lieut. col. Wilkes.

On a motion,

Ordered, That the consideration of further proceedings, on the cases of the suspended Madras officers, which stands for Friday next, be further postponed.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 5th December, 1810.

†Letters from the under-mentioned personages severally, in reply to the court's letters to them, of the 28th ultimo, were read; viz.

From Lieut.-gen. Sir J. Cradock,
Colonel H. Malcolm,
Lieut.-col. H. Pierce, and
Lieut.-col. Wilkes, all dated the 29th ultimo.
Lieut.-gen. J. Stuart, the 30th ultimo.
Lord W. Bentinck, the 2d inst. and
Lieut.-gen. Harris, the 29th ultimo, and 3d instant; also

A letter from lieut.-col. Boles, dated the 1st instant, transmitting a copy of a letter from major-general Sir John Brathwaite, bart. when commanding the army in chief, prescribing a line of conduct for the adjutant-general of the army at Madras, to which is subjoined, the extract of the late marquis Cornwallis's order relative to the precise duty of the adjutant-general.

It was then, on a motion,

Ordered, That the court be specially summoned for Wednesday next, the 12th instant, for the purpose of deciding upon the case of lieut.-col. Boles.

At a Court of Directors, held on Wednesday, the 12th December, 1810.

The court now proceeding, according to order of the 5th instant, to decide upon the case of lieut.-col. Thomas Boles, one of the suspended officers from the Madras army.

The under-mentioned letters which were

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* This letter required information, as to the manner of publication of orders, in the adjutant-general's office, and whether any were published without communication with the government.

† These shew, that except in the instance, where the expenditure of public money is to be incurred, the orders of the commander-in-chief are published without any communication with the government.

read on the 5th instant, were again read; viz.

From General Stuart,
Colonel Malcolm,
Lord W. Bentinck,
Sir J. Cradock,
Colonel Wilkes,
Colonel Pierce, and

two from general Harris. Also from lieut. col. Boles, with enclosures, which latter were likewise read on the 5th instant.

A motion was then made,

"That lieut.-col. Thomas Boles, late deputy adjutant general on the Madras establishment, in the manner of preparing and circulating to the different stations of the army, transcripts of the general order of lieut.-general Macdowall, dated the 28th January, 1809, and in not only entertaining a public address to him from a combination of officers of the Madras army, written in declared opposition to the authority of the government of Fort St. George, upon principles most manifestly seditious, but in accepting, as he does not deny he did, a pension given to him by officers, on those principles, was guilty of factious disrespect, insubordination, and hostility to the government of Fort St. George, as declared in the court's military letter of 29th September, 1809, whereby they did on those grounds suspend him from the service, after having removed, in their letter of the 15th September, 1809, the suspension passed on him by the government of Fort George."

The previous question being then moved upon the above-mentioned motion,

And a very lengthened debate taking place thereupon;

It was moved,

"That the further consideration of the foregoing motion be adjourned to Friday next, at 12 o'clock."

And the same being put, it passed in the affirmative.

At a Court of Directors, held on Friday, the 14th December, 1810.

The court now, pursuant to their adjournment of last court of the 12th instant, resuming the consideration of the motion then made respecting major Boles,

A further debate of very considerable length ensued; when

The previous question upon the foregoing motion, which had been moved on the 12th instant, being now put by the ballot;

And the votes thereon appearing to be equal;

The treasurer was called into court, pursuant to the directions contained in the company's charter, and drew that lot which determined the question in the affirmative.

A motion to adjourn was then made;

And the same being put by the ballot,

It passed in the negative.

The main question being now put by the ballot; viz.

"That major Thomas Boles, late deputy adjutant general on the Madras establishment, in the manner of preparing and circulating to the different stations of the army, transcripts of the general order of lieut. general Macdowall, dated the 28th January, 1809, and in not only entertaining a public address to him from a combination of officers of the Madras army, written in declared opposition to the authority of the government of Fort St. George, upon principles most manifestly seditious, but in accepting, as he does not deny he did, a pension given to him by officers on those principles, was guilty of factious disrespect, insubordination, and hostility to the government of Fort St. George, as declared in the court's military letter of the 29th September, 1809, whereby they did on those grounds suspend him from the service, after having removed, in their letter of 15th September, 1809, the suspension passed on him by the government of Fort St. George."

And the votes upon the said question appearing to be equal;

The treasurer was again called into court, and drew that lot which determined the question in the negative.

At a Court of Directors held on Tuesday, the 8th January, 1811,

The court again resuming the consideration of the cases of the suspended Madras officers;

It was moved,

"That the papers connected with the case of lieut.-colonel the hon. A. St. Leger, be now read;"

Whereupon it was moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "That" in order to introduce in lieu thereof, the words,

"It is due to justice, which must be the basis of all permanent and beneficial legislation, to finish the decision of the court upon the case of major Boles, upon the restoration of whom to, or removal from the service, the court is equally divided, before the court proceeds to the consideration of the cases of the other suspended officers, and that this determination is equally consonant with policy, as it is with justice; that this mode of proceeding is the more proper, as rebellion has been put down, all the above officers are already suspended from the service, and are also condemned by the resolution of the court of the 5th December, 1809, though this hasty condemnation is in direct opposition to the standing order of the court of the 31st March, 1795; and which resolution of the 5th December, must be first revoked, before any further measures can take place in these cases, according to the necessity to be preserved in all public assemblies; and it also seems reasonable, now the late rebellion has been quelled, to consider

what circumstances may be supposed to have led to it."

And *minutes of court, of the 5th December, 1809; also,

The standing order of court, of the 31st 1795, being read,

The question was put, "That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the question."

And the same being put by the ballot;

It passed in the negative.

It was then moved,

"That the proposed amendment stand part of the question."

And it being put by the ballot, it passed in the negative.

The following motion was then made; viz.

"That major Boles be restored to the company's service; that he be not allowed to return to India till, in the opinion of the court of directors, the situation of affairs at Madras shall be such as to render his return in all respects proper; and that he be reprimanded for the intemperate expressions which are contained in his last memorial."

Whereupon it was moved to amend the said motion, by leaving out all the words after the word "That," in order to substitute the following; viz.

"After the fullest consideration that can be given to the case of Major Boles, the supension of this officer from the service, be continued until the 31st January, 1812; and that if the court of directors shall then be satisfied that the officers of the Madras army are restored to that state of subordination and discipline, which may make it consistent with the good of the service to allow major Boles to return to India, he be then permitted to do so, and with his rank in the service, but that he be at all times considered ineligible to be again employed in the adjutant general's office; and further, that prior to his eventual return to India, he be reprimanded in writing by the court, for the intemperate style of his last memorial to the court."

The question was then put by the ballot, "That the words proposed to be left out, stand part of the said question;"

And the votes thereon appearing to be equal;

The treasurer was called into court, pursuant to the directions in the company's charter, and drew that lot which decided it in the affirmative.

The main question being then put by ballot; viz.

"That major Boles be restored to the company's service; that he be not allowed to return to India till, in the opinion of the court of directors, the situation of affairs at Madras shall be such as to render his return in all respects proper; and that he be reprimanded for the intemperate expressions which are contained in his last memorial."

The votes appeared to be equal;

Upon which the treasurer was again called into court, and drew that lot which decided the question in the negative.

At a Court of Directors, held on Tuesday, the 5th February, 1811,

The chairman acquainted the court, that it was specially summoned to take into further consideration the cases of the suspended Madras officers.

The following motion was then made; viz.

"The court having resumed the consideration of the case of major Boles, and having adverted to the circumstance of the court being equally divided upon the subject of the guilt or innocence of this officer, deem it right to lean to the favourable side of the question, and therefore resolve that his suspension from the service be removed; but, as they consider his conduct in some particulars to be not free from blame, they are of opinion that he should not be permitted to return to India till the pleasure of the Court of Directors shall be signified to him to this effect."

And the question thereon being put by the ballot;

The same passed in the affirmative.

A clause for the general letter to Fort St. George, prepared in consequence of the foregoing motion, was read and approved.

Extract of a letter from the Court of Directors to the governor and council at Fort St. George, in the military department; dated 22d Feb. 1811.

12.—Having deemed it proper, before we enter into a detailed review of the circumstances attending the case of each individual officer, whose suspension from the service was announced in your letter to the secret committee of the 13th May, 1809, and of lieutenant-colonel Martin, to come to some decision upon the case of major Boles, we shall now proceed to state to you our opinion upon it.

13.—After an attentive perusal of all the documents which you have transmitted to us, and paying due attention also to the further explanations which have been given by major Boles, we are compelled to declare, that the impression conveyed to us by your original statement of the reasons which induced you to suspend that officer, and the adjutant-general, from our service, and which impression we described in general terms in our letter to you of the 15th September, 1809, has not been removed, and accordingly we still

* Vide: antea.

think that those officers ought not to have been suspended; we must also state, that when in our letter to you of the 29th September, 1809, we confirmed the suspension of major Boles, we came to that resolution, on the authority of Sir George Barlow's minute of the 1st May, 1809, and major-general Gowdie's circular letter of the which is referred to in that minute; and considering the difficult and dangerous situation in which your government was then placed, we thought it our duty to discountenance, by a strong mark of our displeasure, any conduct which appeared at that critical period to encourage discontent, and to weaken our authority, reserving to ourselves, of course, the ultimate decision respecting the future situation of major Boles till the receipt of further information.

14.—It appears that you suspended major Boles from the service, because, having authenticated by his signature, and circulated to the army in his official capacity, an order from his commanding officer lieutenant-general Macdowall which you considered to be an illegal order, and to which therefore, in your estimation, major Boles did not owe obedience, you viewed him in the light of an accomplice with lieutenant-general Macdowall in his attempt to insult the government, and resist its authority.

15.—It is not necessary for us on the present occasion to discuss the propriety of lieutenant-general Macdowall's conduct in taking measures to bring the quarter-master-general to trial before a court martial, and in issuing the order of the 28th January, 1809.

16.—Our opinion on those points has already been stated to you in our letter of the 15th September in that year; and we see no reason to depart from it. We consider the order to have been a flagrant abuse of his authority, and violation of his duty; but we cannot discover in it any such inherent and obvious illegality as could justify the adjutant or deputy-adjutant-general in refusing to obey the command they had received from lieutenant-general Macdowall, that the said order should be circulated to the army. We do not mean to dispute that cases may occur in which an inferior officer would be justified in declining to obey an order of his superior; but those cases are very rare, and must be strong indeed which can warrant the former in taking upon himself the severe and perilous responsibility of judging the acts of his superiors, and debating with himself whether he will yield obedience to the orders of that superior; and though we concur entirely in most of the priciples inculcated in the very able letter which the governor-general in council addressed to you on the 27th May, 1809, we cannot by any means coincide in all the sentiments expressed in that letter on the subject which we are now discussing. It is equally impossible for us to concur in the opinion of the judge advocate-general on the same subject; and we have not been convinced by the numerous legal authorities which he cited in support of his doctrine as applicable to the case now under consideration: we therefore continue of opinion, that major Boles ought not to have been suspended from the service, although it might have been proper to remove from so confidential a situation a person in whom, consistently with the opinions you entertained respecting his conduct, you could no longer place your confidence.

17.—Having thus stated to you the reasons which induced us to think that you ought not to have suspended major Boles from the service, we shall next advert to your proceedings in regard to him subsequently to his suspension; we allude particularly to major-general Gowdie's communication with him, and your refusal to permit his proceeding to England on the Lushington.

18.—Thinking that Major Boles did not act culpably in being merely the ministerial instrument of circulating the general order of the 28th January, in obedience to the commands which he received to that effect, we must confess that we are not surprised at his having declined to apologize for his conduct on that occasion in any manner which might imply an admission that he was conscious of its criminality; and we consider his explanation on that part of the subject to be satisfactory.

19.—Major Boles has complained of your refusal to allow of his proceeding to England in the Lushington; you probably had some strong reason for that determination on your part; but you do not assign any special cause, except the nature of the service on which that ship was to be employed. We are not aware, however, that there could have been any objection to his being allowed to take his passage in the Lushington; and we think this refusal imposed upon him an unnecessary hardship.

20.—It only remains to us now to advert to the conduct of major Boles himself, subsequently to the period of his suspension.

21.—It would have been very satisfactory to us if with the view which we have taken of this case, we could have expressed our sense of the propriety of his subsequent conduct; but though the account which he has given of his behaviour previously to his departure from India removed from our minds the impression that he had become, with his own consent, one of the rallying points for systematic resistance, we are compelled to notice, with consi-

derable disapprobation, other prominent circumstances in his case.

22.—It is almost unnecessary for us to declare our entire concurrence in the sentiments contained in Sir George Barlow's minute of the 1st May, 1809, with refe- ence to the address to major Boles, and the criminality of any military combination with a view to controul and censure the acts of the government, and to give a general indemnity to those persons whose conduct, in the opinion of that government, may be deserving of punishment. It makes no difference, in our estimation, whether the conduct of the government has or has not been such as we can entirely approve. They are responsible only to us for their actions, and we feel it to be our bounden duty to uphold their legitimate authority. If any one of our servants conceives himself aggrieved by an act of the government, in which he is personally interested, we are at all times ready to afford redress when the circumstances of the case appear to us to require it; but the case must rest on its own merits, and any attempt to strengthen it by military combination must be decidedly resisted.

23.—It does not appear from any of your proceedings that major Boles took any part in promoting the address and subscription in his favour, and in a memorial which he addressed to us on the 19th November last, he positively denies any such interference. Admitting the truth of this statement (and we see no reason to doubt it) he certainly is not responsible for the criminality of that proceeding in others; and if the whole of his conduct had been regulated by the same unqualified forbearance, he would have been entitled to the full benefit of it when his case came finally to be decided. In the memorial, however, there is no denial of his having accepted the subscription; on the contrary, we presume from the statement contained in it, that he has actually enjoyed the benefit of that most unmilitary proceeding.

24.—We cannot suppose it possible that our meaning can be so far misunderstood as that we condemn, or would be disposed to censure in the slightest degree, every pecuniary assistance which individual officers may be inclined to afford to a brother officer in circumstances of embarrassment and misfortune; but when that assistance is offered and accepted on such principles, and from such motives as were publicly promulgated in a paper so reprehensible as the address to major Boles, the person consenting to receive it makes himself in a great degree a party to the act.

25.—We have already referred to major Boles's memorial of the 19th November last, and we have allowed him the full benefit of every thing contained in it, but there are several passages in that paper which it has been impossible for us to peruse without considerable dissatisfaction; and we regret, that in pleading his own cause, major Boles should have thought himself at liberty to advert in offensive terms to the conduct, of not only his superior officer, major-general Gowdie, but also of the governor-general. We cannot admit that there existed the least necessity for his adopting language of that description, and his conduct in that particular has contributed to produce an unfavourable impression on our minds.

26.—Having thus explained to you the view which we have taken of major Boles's case, we have now to signify to you, that we have resolved, that his suspension from the service, imposed by our letter of the 29th September, 1809, be removed; but he is not to be permitted to return to India till he shall have received our special permission so to do.

To the honourable the Court of Directors of the East India company.

Gentlemen,

Considering the question, lately discussed in court, respecting the conduct of major Boles, to be of great importance to the public interest of India, as well as to the character of the court of directors, I have deemed it essential to the justification of my own conduct on this occasion, to commit my sentiments to writing in a paper; which I beg may be admitted on the minutes of this court.

It will appear from this view of major Boles's case, taken at an early stage of the discussion, and which no subsequent argument or occurrence has induced me to alter, that it was impossible for me to perceive the propriety of the latter part of the motion, which passed the court in the following terms:

"Resolved, that his (major Boles's) suspension be removed; but as the court consider his conduct in some particulars to be not free from blame, they are of opinion, that he should not be permitted to return to India till the pleasure of the court of directors shall be signified to him for that purpose."

Instead of this decision, the measure, which in my opinion was due to the individual, and which the state of affairs abroad appeared particularly to call for, was a signal and exemplary act of justice, in a case where the original wrong, and the pertinacious adherence to it on the part of the Madras government were manifest, and could not by any ingenuity of argument or weight of authority be concealed from the world.

I should consequently most readily have concurred in the full and complete acquittal of major Boles from all the charges brought against him in India; and have agreed even to compensate him for any loss

he may have sustained in consequence of the unnecessary severity of the Madras government, which prevented his proceeding on the ship on which he had taken his passage to England.

I have the honour to be,
Gentlemen,
Your most obedient, humble servant,
(Signed) S. Davis.

Portland Place,
18th February, 1811.

With respect to the merits of major Boles's case, much the greater part of the papers which have been read might have been omitted. Even the reasonings on it by lord Minto and Sir G. Barlow appear more in justification of their own measures, or in the spirit of an advocate for the prosecution of the charges, than as if urged solely with a view to afford an impartial exposition of the circumstances upon which the charges are founded.

The whole evidence we have of major Boles's conduct in regard to the circulation of the offensive order, an act for which he was suspended the service, is to be found in the paper transmitted by lord Minto to the late chairman. In this paper, John Green, a conductor of ordnance and head clerk in the adjutant general's office, gives an account bearing every appearance of authenticity of the circumstances of the transaction in question. Beyond this document there is not a word to be found in all the papers brought forward which in the least degree relates to major Boles, or his conduct antecedent to his suspension; and therefore from his conduct, as it shall be explained and accounted for on the grounds of this paper, he must stand or fall. If it shall appear that major B. in any degree went out of the ordinary course of his duty, either to hasten the publication of the order in question, or to withhold the knowledge of it from the government of Fort St. George, a fair inference may be drawn that his motive was a desire to promote the seditious views imputed to the commander-in-chief, and the charges which have been urged against him of "becoming a willing instrument, and of lending himself to the commander-in-chief," as well as the greater part if not the whole of the evil, which has been alleged against him in India, and imputed to him in this house, may with some colour of justice be considered as established. The paper alluded to ought therefore to be examined with the strictest attention; and fortunately it is written in a manner that involves no ambiguity whatever, nor leaves the least doubt in regard to the real nature of the occurrences described, which take up the short space of time from the afternoon of Saturday the 28th January, to some part of the following Monday. We learn from this paper, that in the afternoon of Saturday the manuscript order was given to Green (he thinks and we may admit) by Boles. It contained special instructions in the hand-writing of the commander-in-chief, and addressed to Capper, for its circulation, as far as possible the same night. We learn further from the latter part of this paper of evidence adduced by Green, that in regard to circulating general orders to the governor, the adjutant-general had always made it a point, when at Madras, of doing this himself. Manuscript orders were accordingly sent to some of the out-stations the same night, but no copy was yet sent to the governor. The reason for hastening the order to the out-stations, was probably the early expected departure of the commander-in-chief; but nothing as yet occurs to account for their being withheld from the governor. On the next day, Sunday, Boles's superior officer, Capper, was himself at the office, but did not think it necessary to send the order to the governor. Capper left his office to attend the commander-in-chief on board the ship, as likewise soon after did major Boles, and the office was shut up after their departure. At a later hour, Boles returns to the office, and brings with him copies of the order which had by this time been printed, and with his assistant, captain Mc Dowall, sat down to sign these orders for transmission to the out-stations, but still no copy has yet been transmitted to the governor. It happened unfortunately for major Boles, that when lord Minto procured the information under consideration, no enquiry was made of the deponent Green, in regard to what he might have understood to be the cause of this delay; for had he been asked that question, it is more than probable he would have answered, that the delay was owing, not to Boles, but to his superior, Capper, who when at Madras always made it a point to send a copy of such orders himself to the governor. This answer would have agreed with what did actually happen, for we find that the next morning Capper actually came to the office, and, as far as it appears, for no other purpose than to sign and send to the governor a copy of the order himself, agreeably to what Green states to have been the practice, which Capper made it a point to observe.

The demeanor of Capper when at the office, may in part explain the cause of the order being delayed to this time. He is represented angry at not finding a printed order which he might sign and send, and prefers taking a printed one, though signed by Boles, to a manuscript one to sign himself. It should hence appear, that printed copies were usually sent to the governor, and that Capper, a part of the time at least, had waited for the order to be printed, as he did at last send a printed one, though signed by Boles, there being not another printed order left, rather than one in manu-

script with his own signature. But whatever might have been Capper's motive for delay, no irregularity can reasonably be ascribed to Boles, for putting the obsolete regulation found in the office, and referred to by lord Minto, out of the question; and no reasonable person will be induced to draw from it any consequences to Boles; the conduct of Boles appears to have been exactly such as was conformable to his duty on ordinary occasions, during the presence at Madras of his superior, Capper. If it be observed, that this was no ordinary occasion, but one that called for manifestation of fidelity and zeal, such as should have induced a well-affected person in Boles's situation, to have shewn the order to the governor in the first instance, without regard to military subordination: to this I reply, that affairs had not at that time grown into a crisis exhibiting any impending danger of the nature which afterwards happened, and that the terms of the order in question, did not primâ facie bear that obvious sedition which should have rendered it criminal in any inferior officer not to perceive and oppose himself to its circulation, more especially after the recent experience of an order, equally inflammatory, having passed under the notice of the government of Fort St. George, without any objection being publicly made to it: but as this point is a matter of opinion, to be determined by the import of the order in question, as it may strike the reader, it cannot well be argued upon, but must be left to the judgment of every impartial person.

It has been most erroneously urged, that during the period referred to, Capper was absent from Madras, and that the duties of adjutant-general had, during the last period in question, devolved on Boles, who consequently was accountable for the delay in sending the order to the governor; but this assertion, whoever may make it, stands in the face of the only evidence we have on the subject, which is Green's testimony. This testimony establishes the presence of Capper, not only at Madras, but at the office on Sunday and Monday, and represents him absent only as Boles himself was, to accompany the commander-in-chief to his ship. It is therefore extremely unreasonable, to impute to Boles the delay which occurred in sending the order to the governor, because his superior officer was all the time actually at Madras as much as Boles was, and by an etiquette, which it would have been disrespectful in Boles to have violated, had made it a point to send, and actually did send the order himself to the governor, and it is totally incomprehensible in what possible sense it can be affirmed of Boles, that he lent himself, or became a willing instrument, or conspired, or concurred in spreading sedition, when in the transaction in question, it is most clear that he acted, to use an unmilitary term, as a mere clerk in office, under the direction of his superior who was present, and who afterwards did actually desire to take the whole blame upon himself.

Under these circumstances it may be asked, how did it happen that sir George Barlow imputed to Boles what was so clearly due to Capper, by suspending the former instead of the latter, who was present, and ought to have borne the weight of the vengeance intended for the offence?

It will here occur to those who have attentively considered the case in question, that Sir George Barlow does not impute to any one the crime of delay in sending him the order: this imputation is a subsequent discovery of lord Minto, in his reasoning on the case. The crime against which Sir G. Barlow manifested his displeasure, by suspending Boles, was for signing the order which he received from the adjutant-general's office. Had it borne the signature of Capper, which it ought and would have done, but for the accidental circumstance which has been explained, Capper would have been suspended instead of Boles; for it appears by Green's evidence, that Capper sought for a blank order to sign, and was even angry at not finding one left, to which he could affix his signature. Capper, therefore, sent one of those which had been signed by Boles, and the suspension of Boles followed; not because he was the person who sent it, but because it accidentally, and contrary to Capper's intention, happened to bear the signature of Boles.

From so slight an accident as this, have such heavy consequences followed to Boles:—a man wholly innocent of any offence, as Boles must thus far appear to be, has been stigmatized as a traitor to the government under which he served.

The next occasion on which major Boles's conduct comes under consideration, is the interview afforded him by general Gowdie.

Sir G. Barlow being sensible that he had gone too far in suspending from the service the deputy-adjutant-general, or, as it may perhaps be more correctly said, general Gowdie being of that opinion, the latter offers to intercede to get him reinstated, provided he "would make the slightest apology, and say he was sorry for what had happened."—Different opinions will be formed of what ought to have been Boles's reply, according to the different notions of prudence which may be entertained. Some may think it would have been no great sacrifice in Boles to have put himself so far in the wrong as to have said, whatever he might have thought, that he was sorry for what had happened, more especially when reinstated in his office, and emoluments were to be the reward of this concession. Men of high spirit, whether of the military or civil professions, might think otherwise, and see in the baseness of such a concession

more evil and disquietude than could result from pecuniary privation and distress. The latter was the determination of Boles; who, relying perhaps on the justice he might expect in an appeal to the authorities at home, disdained the offer made him of Gowdie's intercession, and, with a tone heightened probably by a sense of the harsh treatment he had received, exclaimed, that he was "not sorry for any thing that had happened."

It will probably not be obvious to common sense, that, in this determination of Boles, or in the language he made use of, any fresh offence could have been committed. He certainly had the right of choice, either to rely on the justice to be sought for at home, or to accept of restoration on the terms offered; and as to his not being sorry for any thing that had happened, the meaning cannot, by any fair construction, be referred to any thing beyond what had happened to himself in issuing the order of the commander in chief as already described: moreover, nothing yet had happened of importance besides the general dissatisfaction which ensued from the measure adopted by sir G. Barlow, of suspending Boles from the service. The revolt of the army was a subsequent occurrence, at this time probably not in contemplation by any of the parties. It cannot fail, therefore, of appearing extraordinary, that to this refusal of Boles's to apologize for a transaction in which, as far as he had been concerned, there had been no real cause of offence, a greater degree of blame should be attached by the directors than to any thing of which Boles had been yet accused. They had restored Boles to the service; but, on receiving the dispatch respecting his refusal to apologize, they not only suspend him from the service, but speak of his conduct in terms which the evidence before them does not appear by any means to justify, namely, "as acting in opposition to the sense of the government, and of glorying in that opposition;—that, "with his own consent, his case had become the rallying point for systematic resistance to the government in support of pernicious and unfounded doctrines, and of factious opposition to the government." These heavy accusations, as applied to Boles, can be understood only on a supposition that on the receipt of the dispatch above-mentioned, the directors attended more to the observations of sir George Barlow on the conduct of Boles, than they did to the evidence before them of his conduct. Sir George Barlow observes "that whatever doubt might have been entertained of Boles's suspension for a casual error or inconsiderate mistake, there could be no difference of opinion to the necessity of punishment, when he thus (by his answer to Gowdie) deliberately attempted to vindicate his act (of issuing the order without first shewing it to the governor of Fort St. George) and even to consider it as meritorious." Sir George goes on to observe, that "Boles's conduct might have proceeded from an erroneous mode of thinking, and from an adherence to false principles, but if men will persist in their errors, and maintain their false principles, they must also abide by the consequences of such conduct." Sir George proceeds to say, that he "therefore considered the case of Boles to be one holding forth to an army principles of the most dangerous tendency, for if soldiers are suffered to acknowledge no superior but their general, a total dissolution of all legal government must ensue." Now with whatever truth and propriety these observations might apply to Capper the adjutant general, it has clearly been shewn, from what passed in issuing the orders, at Madras, that no part of them can in reason and justice be applied to Boles, any more than they could to captain Macdowall, Boles's assistant, or to any of the brigade majors or adjutants through whose hands the orders in question passed into the orderly books of the army. It may not however be difficult to discover the cause of sir George Barlow's severe animadversions on the conduct ascribed to Boles. He had most unjustly, as it appeared to the army, and as it must appear to the world, suspended Boles. He was himself conscious that it was a hasty step, and he wished to retrace it, but to do this in a direct manner would be to acknowledge an error, which was an act not congenial to his feelings, and perhaps, as he thought, neither becoming the dignity of the government, nor suitable to the existing spirit of the times; he therefore sought through Gowdie to obtain, under the hope of reinstatement, the consent of Boles to put himself in the wrong, by confessing himself sorry for what had happened. Failing in this attempt, and finding that the suspension of Boles had raised a flame, and became a rallying point for the disaffected officers, it became necessary for sir George to make the best defence he could of the condition into which he thus had precipitately fallen. Under this view of the case, and under this only, will the comments and reasonings both of lord Minto and sir George Barlow on Boles's case, become intelligible. Lord Minto, on the first intelligence of the disturbance saw the necessity and propriety of affording his support to the government of Madras, and of approving generally the measures adopted by the latter. It would have been inconsistent with this principle, to have made an exception even in favour of Boles, of whose case his lordship at first did actually entertain some doubts, and his lordship therefore pursues a train of reasoning until he confesses

that he began to entertain doubts of the reasonableness even of those doubts, and concludes his comments on Boles's case with a most unfair representation of that officer's conduct at Madras, founded on an obsolete regulation of 30 years standing, discovered to be in the adjutant-general's office, prescribing the mode to be observed in issuing general orders. But the obsolete rule in question, has been set at rest by the explanations afforded by major Pearce, and other competent authorities, and the whole reasoning upon it must fall to the ground, as must also, to every candid mind, the reasonings and inferences of sir George Barlow on the same subject, and Boles must be left to be judged by the evidence which has been received of his conduct; which evidence it may truly be insisted on, is comprised in the two documents above described, viz. Green's evidence and Gowdie's report. These documents are so far from establishing the charges made against Boles of lending himself, and becoming a willing instrument, and of entering into the seditious views of the commander in chief, that it is absolutely impossible, from any thing contained in these, even to discover what were actually Boles's sentiments on the dispute existing between the government and the commander in chief; or to discover whether he approved or disapproved the extraordinary conduct of the latter. From any thing that appears in this evidence, Boles may have been, as he has described himself, an inoffensive person, passing his time, when not officially employed, in retirement, and taking no part whatever in the existing disputes, and in no habit of confidence, or even of great intimacy, with the commander-in-chief.

It has been seen in what manner Boles fell under the displeasure of the government of Fort St. George, instead of Capper, by the mere accident of the printed order sent to sir George Barlow, not being signed by the latter as was intended, and would have happened, had there been a printed copy left for him to sign. It also appears, that sir George Barlow was willing to restore Boles, could Boles have been brought to render himself contemptible to the army, and to the world, by expressing sorrow, and thus obtaining reinstatement at the expense of his honour; and that failing in this attempt, Boles has been left by sir G. Barlow to pursue his appeal to the court of directors. The policy of this step may well be disputed, for it may be fairly assumed, that mischief was less likely to ensue from a magnanimous acknowledgment of a mistake committed in regard to the suspension of Boles, than from perseverance in that error, whereby Boles did actually become "a rallying point for the disaffected officers," to give a colouring to their sedition, not with his own consent, as has been unfairly asserted, but by the firmness, in this instance misapplied, of the government of Fort St. George.

But notwithstanding all that can be said in defence of major Boles, it is observed, that his acquittal might bring disrepute upon the government of sir G. Barlow, who has pronounced him deserving of punishment, and weaken his authority; and that the return of major Boles to his station, and to the resumption of his office, might afford a triumph to the late disaffected officers, and serve to keep alive that spirit of sedition, which though subdued, has no wholly disappeared, but may break out again at some future period.

Were these arguments admissible, the directors might have spared themselves the trouble of investigating any farther than was necessary, to ascertain what was the opinion of the government, on the case in question; but it is not the opinion of that government, nor of the court of directors, that can alter the nature of things, or make that right which is obviously wrong. If the case be truly represented in the foregoing part of this paper, it must appear that major Boles has been most unjustly dealt with, and that the circumstances under which sir G. Barlow acted, whether of apparent necessity, or of precipitancy, make no difference to major Boles, the effect being to him in either case just the same. The attention of the settlement abroad, is no doubt turned to the issue of this investigation, and common sense will not find much difficulty in determining whether the redress sought for, ought or ought not to be afforded, for if not, it must be understood that the affairs of the company are fallen into a state so new and peculiar, as to deter the directors at home from venturing to do justice in an appeal from abroad, lest it should hurt the credit, and impair the authority of the government which did the wrong. But can it for a moment be contended, that the reputation of the India governments, or their legitimate authorities, are to be maintained by tolerating their acts of unnecessary severity and oppression; and is it meant that the court of directors are now to establish new maxims of policy, the foundations of which are to be laid in acts of injustice to individuals? The redress of so great a wrong as the one under consideration, will no doubt produce satisfaction, and in that sense afford a triumph to every liberal mind, as well as to the disaffected officers. But does the alternative of dismissing, or of continuing major Boles in a state of indefinite suspension, afford the prospect of more favourable sentiments, or more salutary effect? let this position be examined. The unjust punishment of Boles

drew forth a flame from materials which were already in a combustible state, and urged the infatuated officers to acts of madness: do the consequences experienced from this act of imprudence, afford reasonable hopes of any particular benefit or advantage to result from dismissing Boles, or from placing him in a state of indefinite suspension? Would it not be more consistent with the means of insuring future tranquillity, to manifest to the Indian settlements in general, by the proposed act of justice, that the court of directors, though firm in their purpose of supporting their governments, and of repressing and punishing the least appearances of disrespect or disobedience shewn towards them, are equally ready to afford redress against injuries, however dignified the hand that may inflict them; and with reference to the late deplorable events, that although fully prepared and firmly determined to punish insubordination and revolt on the one side, they are equally willing to enquire into, and pass an impartial judgment, on any precipitancies or mistakes which may have been committed, or unwarrantable exertions of power which may have been exercised by the constituted authorities, on the other side.

(Signed) J. Davis.

To the honourable the Court of Directors of the East India company.

Gentlemen,

When I declared my acquiescence in the resolution of the court of directors, dated the 5th February, 1811,* for the qualified restoration of major Boles to the service, I gave notice of my intention to record the motives of public convenience on which that acquiescence was founded, together with a short abstract of the whole case, for the purpose of explaining the resolution which in my judgment ought to have been adopted "for his unqualified restoration to the service, and to his office, and for conferring an adequate compensation for his pecuniary losses, and unmerited sufferings." My acquiescence in the resolution of the 5th February, was founded on the necessity frequently imposed, by the course of public affairs, of adopting the most practicable measures when the best are unattainable, on the expediency of relieving the court of directors from an embarrassment which impeded the ordinary course of business, and on an apprehension that in the course of discussion between numbers equally balanced, I might have subjected major Boles to the chance of dismission by the lot of the treasurer. It may be proper, however, to explain, that I should not have urged the return of major Boles to India, so long as sir George Barlow shall fill the office of governor of Fort St. George, because such a measure, however just to a suffering individual, might be injurious to the public interests, by reviving those discussions which it ought now to be the main object of this court to consign to oblivion, and that I look forward to the period of a change in that government, as that at which measures of conciliation and justice may be expected to produce their unimpaired effects; but in consenting to postpone the completion of measures of this character until a proper period, I must be understood most earnestly to deprecate the construction of major Boles being now detained, as a punishment "for his conduct," which is stated "in some particulars," to be "not free from blame;" and to declare my fixed opinion, which I have reason also to consider the opinion of several of those with whom I voted, that no blame whatever attaches to major Boles, except for the *terms of levity* employed *in his last memorial to this court*, a very venial error in my estimation, when the objects are considered to which those observations are applied, and the feelings which they were calculated to excite in an individual whom they had so deeply injured.

Having dismissed these preliminary observations, I shall endeavour to offer an abstract view of the case of major Boles in support of that judgment and decision on its merits, of which I have been the uniform and conscientious, but unsuccessful advocate.

The case of major Boles, as stated on our records, necessarily resolves itself into three distinct heads, which ought to be separately considered.

1st.—The grounds assigned in the government orders the 31st January, 1809, by the government of Fort St. George, for the suspension of major Boles from the service, viz. a violation of his duty in executing an act which he knew to be illegal.

2d.—The intention of criminality stated to be evinced in the mode of circulating the orders of the commander in chief, dated the 28th January, 1809, contrary to the established routine of his office, and with views disrespectful to the authority of government.

3d.—The conduct of major Boles subsequent to his suspension.

On the first of these heads, I am of opinion, that the act "of having circulated under his signature and giving currency to the general orders by the commander in chief, dated the 28th January, exclusively attributed to major Boles in the general orders by government, dated 31st January, 1809, appears to have been ascribed to that officer on defective information; it

* Mr. Huddleston and Mr. R. Thornton also recorded their opinion, on the same side, with Messrs. Davis and Bannerman; and nearly on the same grounds.

appears, by the testimony of John Green, the head clerk in the adjutant general's office, that major Boles and captain Macdowal were equally engaged in signing and circulating these orders, and it appears by the records of this court, that the former has been punished, "and the latter has not been punished" for having "circulated with his signature and given currency to these orders." It is manifest that the appearance of the signature of major Boles to the copy of the order sent to the governor on Monday the 30th, arose from the accidental circumstance of all the copies having been signed by these two officers on Sunday the 29th; that the act of sending a copy to the governor signed by major Boles, instead of a copy signed by captain Macdowal, or a manuscript copy to be signed by the adjutant general, as suggested by the clerk, was not the act of major Boles but of colonel Capper, who was present in his office on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday the 30th; that the note of transmission was also written and dispatched by colonel Capper himself, that therefore, so far as intention constitutes the essence of an act, major Boles did not sign that order to be sent to the governor, and was in no respect accessary to its being sent.

As far as regards "his having circulated with his signature, and give "currency to the order" to other stations, he stands precisely on the same ground as captain Macdowal, to whom no criminality has been attached on that account; it follows that the act exclusively attributed to major Boles, is erroneously so ascribed, and that if he has been justly punished, captain Macdowal has been unjustly absolved.

With respect to the illegality of the act, the same observations apply to the conduct of both these officers, both being equally innocent or equally guilty; for while their mutual principal was on the spot, the responsibility for the conduct of the office generally but particularly for all acts specially ordered by himself, attached to him alone: the simple act of his walking out, or of having been on board ship with general Macdowall for two or three hours did not entitle major Boles to usurp the charge or the responsibility; in this respect he was on a footing, not only with captain Macdowal, but with John Green; he could act in the office just as he had been ordered to act, and not otherwise.

But if a separate responsibility should be supposed to attach to major Boles, his refusal to obey the order of his military superior, must be justified by proofs of illegality so plain and unequivocal, as to be level to every apprehension, and so obvious as to admit of neither hesitation nor delay, inasmuch as in military transactions, where the execution of orders must necessarily be prompt, hesitation or delay in itself constitutes disobedience, and if doubts of the legality of this order had occurred to the mind of major Boles, they must necessarily have been removed by a recent fact, namely, that a general order by the commander in chief, dated 25th of the same month, had been issued under the sanction of the governor to the troops of his garrison, which is much more offensive and injurious to those superior authorities, towards whom it is the imperious duty of the governor of Madras to inculcate reverence and respect, and consequently more illegal than the general order of the 28th, issued three days afterwards.

The determination of the court of directors, dated 15th September, 1809, para. 98, which orders the restoration of major Boles, must necessarily be understood to acquit him of this head of accusation, and of consequence to pronounce the act of his suspension to be at least an erroneous measure.

The decision might seem to render unnecessary any explanation of the principles on which it was adopted; but inasmuch as the consideration of the main offence for which major Boles was actually suspended, must necessarily apply to all its collateral relations, it was necessary to establish, and it is essential to remember, that the very act of which he is exclusively accused, was erroneously ascribed to him, and that he stands acquitted of the guilt which it was supposed to involve.

On the 2nd head; viz. the intention of criminality stated to be evinced, and the disrespect intended in an unusual mode of circulating the offensive orders.

The complete body of evidence contained in the very distinct and satisfactory letters of lieutenant generals Harris, Stuart, Cradock, and lord William Bentinck, and colonels Wilkes, Malcolm, and Pierce, renders it unnecessary for me to detain the court with any farther arguments to prove, that the conduct of major Boles, with regard to the mode of issuing the order, was in strict conformity to established routine, and that no deviation from the ordinary practice of the office had been shewn, except in sending to the governor a copy signed by the deputy instead of the principal; which deviation from strict etiquette, was the act of colonel Capper, and not of major Boles.

Even the statement of the head clerk, which bears internal evidence of being written under the fear of offending the existing powers, although it does not state, as it ought to have done, that the whole routine described, down to the mark M. G. O. in the post book, was according to the established practice of the office, does bear most ample testimony to that fact by the inadvertent admission "that he had not then the smallest idea that he should at any future period be called upon to

make a declaration on the subject," the very evidence adduced to prove, that the mode of circulating this order " was "contrary to usage," thus serving to establish beyond controversy, that the witness considered it at the time not to be contrary to usage, and it is evident from the nature of the thing, that the mark M. G. O. in the post book, which from an awkwardness of expression, perhaps rather than intention, would seem to be described as contrary to custom, must necessarily be in the course of ordinary routine, inasmuch as it is evident, from the general evidence of this routine, described in the letters to which I have adverted, that without this or some equivalent mark, it would be impossible to determine to which of the stations it would be requisite to transmit the subsequent printed copies for official record.

On the third of these heads, viz. the conduct of major Boles subsequent to his suspension, the constructive accusations under this head, chiefly amount to his having become the rallying point for the disaffected, and his having rejected the advances of major-general Gowdie.

With respect to the first of these accusations, it is affirmed, not only without proof, but contrary to every proof on our records, that major Boles by his own act became the rallying point for the disaffected; and it is contrary to the plainest dictates of common justice and common sense, to accuse him of crimes committed by others without his participation or sanction. If it could be necessary to adduce an example of moderation, forbearance, and more than christian patience, as the rigid model and criterion by which the actions of men ought to be regulated under the pressure of unmerited suffering, the whole tenor of the conduct of major Boles, up to the period of his arrival in this country, would furnish that example.

The punishment which he had sustained (pronounced by this court to be an erroneous measure) was also pronounced by the general voice of those who were subject to similar suffering, to be an act of error, of injustice, and oppression.

It is true that he became the rallying point of the disaffected, but he became so to the same extent, and in the same manner, as the lifeless staff which supports the standard of rebellion; he did not make himself, but was made, the rallying point; he was erected by the acts of others, into an importance in which he had neither participation nor consent.

He was not the author of rebellion, but the victim which excited others to rebel; and there can be no heart so devoid of christian charity, as to impute it to major Boles as a crime, if destitute of any property of his own, and deprived of the subsistence which his profession afforded, he may have been touched by the sufferings of a beloved family, and, in contemplation of impending famine, have shrunk from the last consequence of punishment without crime, and accepted the spontaneous aid of his friends.

With respect to "his rejection of the advances of major general-Gowdie," "the acknowledgment of error and contrition for offence," were in substance the avowals demanded of an honourable man who was unconscious of error, and innocent of the intention to offend. It is conformable to the mild character of major Boles, exhibited in these proceedings, to conclude, that any explanation demanded previously to the act of punishment, would have been given with the greatest humility and respect; but the character of explanation is completely changed after judgment has been pronounced, and punishment inflicted not only without trial, but absolutely without enquiry; and it must never be forgotten, that the avowal demanded would have constituted the crime which his prosecutors sought to establish: that the advances having been professedly unauthorized, it is no uncharitable inference, from a comparison with other facts, to suppose, that by the required concession he might have found himself transformed from the character of an injured man, to that of an abject wretch pleading guilty in the hope of pardon and failing to obtain it; that having in the judgment of the Court of Directors, of the whole world, and above all of his own conscience, been unjustly punished, the mean avowal demanded must have necessarily rendered him contemptible in his own eyes, and have for ever excluded him from the society of honourable men. And it should also never be forgotten, that the restoration so anxiously professed, being in the nature of a decision on a case appealed to higher authority, would have been an act, at least of doubtful legality, and, if legal, might not have been confirmed by the Court of Directors under the admission of impropriety of conduct, which must necessarily have been implied in any apology by major Boles, however modified.

On a review of the abundant proof which has been exhibited of the absence of all criminality in the conduct of major Boles, it would next become a subject for grave consideration to appreciate the consequences of his restoration to the service, as an act of apparent concession to the clamours of a misguided army.

If rebellion had not actually been put down, there might have been some reason for political hesitation on this head, in the minds of those who are disposed to question the axiom of an eminent statesman, that "justice is the standing policy of nations." Happily the fear of doing justice no longer exists even in imagination, the

clamours have been suppressed on which these terrors are founded, but if the remnant of such apprehensions even should exist, shall injustice be consecrated because it has produced revolt? shall evil be sanctioned because it has produced evil? shall primitive error be cherished because it has been the parent of greater error? and should an individual, cruelly oppressed, be excluded on motives of false policy from the very semblance of justice, because his sufferings have incited other individuals to commit crimes? The dangers of such a course are infinitely greater than the portentous fear with which some gentlemen seem to be haunted, the fear of having it believed that it was possible for the Court of Directors to do an act of justice; to the terrors of such a phantom may safely be opposed the sober and confident hope of an army returning from sullen acquiescence to willing obedience, from a conviction that justice is secure, and that a power exists equally ready to relieve unmerited suffering, and to punish rebellion, by whatever cause excited.

It would be indeed a distorted view of human nature and human feelings, to contemplate terror and coercion as the sole instruments capable of regulating the conduct of mankind; rulers are but men, and coercion, to be permanent, and to command the minds of their fellow men, must be clothed in the garb of justice; in any other form its force may be all powerful for a time, but its ultimate re-action is the object of real terror. The persons lately designated rebels and disaffected, still are men, reasoning beings, whose minds must be reclaimed.

This mental cure is of easy application; it only requires that the Court of Directors should do its duty, should administer justice in mercy; this is the true antidote against future crimes, the chief defence of our Indian possessions against that anarchy which, without it, must speedily force their dismemberment from the parent state.

I have thus endeavoured to explain the grounds of the resolution which in my judgment, ought to have been adopted "for the unqualified restoration of major Boles to the service and to his office, and for conferring an adequate compensation for his pecuniary losses and unmerited sufferings; and I will venture to indulge a hope, that the feeble and equivocal advance in the cause of justice which has been made by the resolution of the 5th February, may be the precursor of measures more direct and effectual; but above all, I do most solemnly and earnestly adjure the respectable individuals at the head of our direction, to accelerate by every means in their power those changes in the formation of our Indian governments, which may remove from the act of necessary justice, conditionally implied in the resolution of the 5th instant, all semblance of inconvenience; which may render the measures of conciliation and lenity, yet to be carried into effect, safe, graceful, and effectual, and may avert from the great interests committed to our charge, the dreadful consequences still to be apprehended from a perseverance in that career of wanton oppression which has shaken the foundations of our Indian empire.

I have the honour to be,
With the greatest respect,
Your most obedient servant,
J. BANNERMAN.

20th February, 1811.

Passages in major Boles's defence, referred to in colonel Bannerman's dissent, and which are censured in the court's general letter of 22d February, 1811.

I have deeply to lament, that the ultimate consideration of my conduct has been postponed to so late a day, since that circumstance has exposed me to prejudices arising out of subsequent transactions, to which my actions have no reference; and has created embarrassments not naturally attached to the offence imputed to me. If my case had been judged by itself, and had not been mixed with matters not belonging to it, I should not now have to deplore the activity of the highest personages in India, to look for subsequent circumstances to justify the preceding acts and severity of government; and that such personages, rare as is the occurrence, have taken the trouble to communicate the circumstance (when supposed to be discovered) by private and uncommon means. That cause surely cannot be esteemed a common one, and not foreign to the interests of the government itself, when such unheard-of measures are used to affect and influence its decision. When I observe this to your honourable court, I mean not to throw any unnecessary reflection on a power set over me, and which I am bound to revere. But it is not to be forgotten under what circumstances I am speaking. I am now some thousand miles remote from India, whither I have been sent to answer accusations preferred thence against me; when I find at the moment I am making my defence, that I have also to answer new charges raked up behind my back, founded in no probable fact, and whispered in such a way, that I might not have known their existence until I had experienced their effect. If under these rare circumstances I may discover any momentary heat, it will, I trust, be excused by the novelty of the case under which I have addressed you. If his lordship has forgotten his high public station, to pursue an humble individual several months subsequent to his alleged offence and departure from the country, by the unheard-of course explained, it will create no wonder, should such individual for a moment involuntarily lose

sight of that respect due to the office which he fills.

It has been explained to your honourable court in a former memorial, and already noticed in this, that the orders of lieutenant general Macdowall of the 28th January were published, for the sake of dispatch, in manuscript. On this circumstance lord Minto has remarked in a private letter to your late chairman, under date the 21st of October, 1809, "that it is entirely contrary to usage to circulate general orders in manuscript."

This is a broad unqualified statement, made, as it should seem, without seeking information from persons who would be as willing as they might have been capable to instruct him correctly on this, or any other military subject; or without any consideration or reflection in his own mind, that the invariable rule of circulating orders only in print, which his lordship states to obtain always at Madras, must be totally incompetent to the conduct and exigency of military affairs in any and in every part of the world.

To this I have nothing to oppose but an uncourteous counter assertion, supported by a certificate of a late deputy-adjutant-general of the coast army, and an affidavit sworn to before a competent authority, and to which I humbly solicit the particular attention of your honourable court, as relating to this, and some other points, that may be considered of material consequence, from the manner in which they have already been brought to your notice.

If any other evidence should be wanted, it may be afforded to your honourable court by the examination of any or every officer who has ever commanded a corps or station in your army on the Madras establishment (many of whom are now in London) if your honourable court shall think it expedient to enquire further into that particular.

To this nothing can be objected but the report of a clerk in office, written under the immediate inspection and orders of a party who is interested in my suspension.

This report, too, in the very first paragraph, states a fact that must convince your honourable court, and every one open to conviction, that there was not any thing extraordinary in the publication of the order in manuscript; for the reporter unequivocally says, that in respect to the orders so communicated, "that he made no memoranda at the time of any circumstance that might guide him, as he had not then the smallest idea that he should at any future period be called upon to make that declaration" (respecting them.) So that the manner of the publication was not at the time striking or noticeable by him, nor has at any time been further noticed than by placing the usual single letter M. (i. e. manuscript) before the letters G. O. in the office post-book.

Can any stronger circumstance be introduced to prove, that the reporter did not think the manuscript publication a very uncommon course? But it is no matter what a person of this description might think or might report, since the frequency of publication after this manner is known throughout the army, and can be evidenced by every officer of rank and responsibility in the service. Yet has his lordship, relying upon his own interpretation of this report, or adopting the conclusions of interested persons, proceeded to state in aggravation of my alleged crime, "that it is entirely contrary to usage to circulate general orders in manuscript."

But his lordship not only describes what he states to be an incontrovertible fact; but in order to attach a greater importance to it, in the consideration of my case, he goes on to add, that they (meaning the orders) are always printed." And why? because a sort of policy is promoted by it, "which occasions some delay, and subjects them to the possible observation of government, through the government, printer. So that it is implied, that I not only broke through an established invariable usage, but that such usage was founded on a particular and acknowledged policy. As if it could have entered into the mind of any man, but one determined to make out, at all events, the conclusion on which his heart was fixed, that any legitimate government could have ever designed that the orders of the second officer in the state should be submitted to the approbation, discretion, and imprimatur of a government printer! Yet the governor-general of India has avowed the existence of this master-piece of Asiatic polity.

From assumed facts, and reasoning like this, his lordship has next recourse to hints, coupled with circumstances disconnected, but capable of a prejudicial inference, without any specific application by him to my case.

It is insinuated in the private letter of his lordship, that an unreasonable delay had occurred between the circulation of the order to the military stations, and the transmissal of it to the governor. But this is a mere after-thought, in as far as it regards my punishment, or my offence. This delay, if criminal, and had it been so felt to be by the government at the time would have been charged against me in the government order wherein my offence is declared to the army, and not reserved for an after occasion. This insinuation is thrown out with a view to impress those who are not conversant with military matters, that it was the usage and practice (which is not the fact) to submit the orders of the commander-in-chief for the governor's approbation, previous to publication to the army. But the usage and practice of the service at Madras does not warrant any such con-

clusion, and the youngest officer in that army could have informed his lordship, that they never are submitted for that purpose. The reason that a copy of general orders is sent to the governor is obvious and known, for the purpose of his publishing them (if he thinks proper) to the garrison of Fort St. George, which fortress alone is especially under his command, by a commission to that effect.

It does not, I am aware, follow, but that any tardy transmissal of an order might be liable to be considered as disrespectful to the governor, and possibly in this instance have afforded a supposed ground of complaint; I shall only say, that it was never suggested till many months afterwards as a subject of complaint against me, and even then, in the suspicious form of a whisper in my absence.

In truth, let the thing be censurable or not, it had no sort of reference to me. It was not my duty, but my principal's, when he was present, and out of respect to the governor, to transmit such orders. And Green, in his memorable report has said so in as many words: "lieutenant-colonel Capper, when at Madras, made it a point at all times of sending the orders to the governor himself." Any neglect of his, if it were neglect, could not therefore be imputable to me. But in point of fact, there would not seem to have been any negligence in the transmissal of the orders; they were not received in their printed form from the press until the afternoon of Sunday, at a moment when lieutenant-colonel Capper was not in the office, but the copy was sent to the governor, with the usual letter, on the next morning, the first moment that the adjutant-general could officially perform that duty.

It has been shewn by Green, how my name became accidentally subscribed to the copy of the orders sent to the governor. But if it had been wholly unexplained, the circumstance itself would have afforded an argument to prove, that I could not see any thing very criminal in the order, or I should not have gone out of the usual course to subscribe it; and thus, by the singularity of the thing, court the notice and punishment of government.

It is observable, that I am not drawing any far-fetched or nice conclusions, since the accidental signature of my name to that very copy of the order, and in the way that Green has explained, was the cause, the only cause, of my suspension.

In most cases it is sufficient that a party accused liberates himself from the matters alleged against him, as designating his crime, and he is not required to trouble himself with rendering an account of his conduct, either under or subsequent to his condemnation. These things are foreign to the consideration of his original condition, whether guilty or not. But the hand of power has not let me rest one moment since my punishment has been decreed, and actually carried into execution. It has not let me enjoy the repose of my family, and the quiet of retirement. Nay, a new crime has been tortured out of the very execution of the sentence, "vengeance has been made of my calamity." I have been put to the question, and it has been endeavoured to draw from me on the rack, the justification of the sentence under which I was writhing; aye, and because I have not answered as it was wished, I have been blazoned to the whole army as an obdurate hardened offender. Some one, perhaps, may have seen in my constancy and endurance, that I was sustained by another, and a far different spirit, the consciousness of innocence.

Your honourable court will have felt that I have been alluding to the act of general Gowdie, in his friendly and confidential communication to me, wherein he has reported that he made me the generous offer of his important services with the government for effecting my restoration, if I would but fall down and humbly confess my crime; if I would express any adequate degree of regret, and say that I was sorry for what I had done.

By this easy quieting apology, which the major-general conceived any man of principle might make without the compromise of his honour, he imagined he would be able to effect my pardon, without reflecting, good man, that if so flimsy an explanation would have satisfied the government, that it would undoubtedly have called for such explanation before it had pronounced sentence upon me; without reflecting that it is before, and not after punishment, that explanations are required; nor did the worthy general perceive that the tender of his services (being voluntary and unauthorized) even if it had been accepted, might have failed in its proposed effect, and would have left me in the forlorn and unpitiable situation of a condemned criminal, making confession of his crime, and crying to the winds for mercy.

He did not also imagine at the time when he was performing the friendly, the confidential office of stepping between me and the anger of the government, that he might be called upon to violate the confidence of such a situation, to betray my confession to the army, and to proclaim my acknowledged guilt, as he has done my refusal to admit it, in compliance with the desire of government, or in conformity with his own impressions of his duty. He did not know that he would subsequently be required to forsake me, whom he was thus willing, to befriend, and whom, of his own mere motive, he sought so anxiously to assist, and that it would be his du-

grateful office to denounce me, over whom he had then no legal authority, to the whole army, in a long laboured letter, as glorying in a well-earned punishment, and as undeserving the unasked respect and protection of my brethren of the army.

How I must have felt this attempt to deprive me of the good opinion and assistance of my brother officers, then my only stay and support, is not worthy a transient thought, when it is considered what the venerable and worthy general must have suffered, in being obliged to break the sanctuary of a private confidence, self-solicited, and to sacrifice his private friendship at the dictate of public convenience.

It will be expected that I say but little more in respect to my declining to avail myself of general Gowdie's kind, but unaccredited, proposition above mentioned. I have stated that it was made some time after punishment had been inflicted on me; that in accepting it, I should have acknowledged guilt, which I have always denied, and that if I had afforded such a justification to the act of the government, I was by no means assured of its clemency: so that I might have afterwards missed the reward of self-debasement, and the worst of treachery, in betraying conscience and truth, for the sake of personal advantage, to secure the means of life by the destruction of every principle that makes life covetable.

If I could have concurred in such a proposition, offered me at such a price, though it had purchased for me all the honours with which the general was covered, I trust that the feelings of a soldier, and the sentiments of an honest man, which have never forsaken me, would have saved me from such a degradation, from the compromise of my honour, for any advantage that the world can yield.

My notions may be false, may be unserviceable to the possessor, for they have been learned in a school where sentiment rather than reasoning fixes the habit and the character, and where sentiment is every thing. But so long as I own these notions, it would be treason to belie them. They are the distinguishing marks of the profession to which I have the honour to belong, and I have always been taught to believe, and hope I ever shall believe, that they are the distinction of theprofession at large.

I am not vaunting forth any personal pretensions to more nicety and chasteness than is felt by every respectable member of the community to which I belong; and I have the testimony in a paper which I have taken the liberty to add to my memorial, that in thus treating major-general Gowdie's proposal, and in speaking of my own feelings, that I am not singular in my opinions. This paper contains extracts so far as they relate to my unprecedented case, from a letter from his excellency lieut.-gen. the honourable Thomas Maitland, governor and commander-in-chief of the island of Ceylon, addressed, as I have understood, to his excellency lieutenant-general Hewitt, commander-in-chief in India. If I had thought or acted otherwise than I did, regarding general Gowdie's proposition, general Maitland will tell you, that there would not have been an occasion for the suspension of the government, to have deservedly scouted me from all military society in the world.

It will not be thought by your honourable court, that I have rested on these particulars too long, since they have been construed into an accusation, of which it is proper to rid myself; that I had made myself as it were, a rallying point to the disaffected. My situation, alas! from the first to the last, was an involuntary one.

Exposition of the state of the company's finances, at home and abroad:—Submitted to the honourable committee of the House of Commons, appointed to take into consideration the affairs of the East India company.*

1.—The pecuniary embarrassments of the company, at home, began to be seriously felt, in the course of the year 1805-6; and the causes of them can be distinctly traced. In the course of the year 1802, upon the peace of Amiens, a plan, which is detailed in the Indian budget of March, 1803, was adopted for the liquidation of the Indian debt. One part of that plan was to increase the annual disposable surplus arising from all the company's receipts, territorial and commercial, abroad and at home, by new retrenchments in the expenditure, and by additional profits to accrue from augmented investments to, and from India and China. In pursuance of this principle, the exports to those countries were considerably increased both in goods and bullion, in the years 1803 and 1804; but the war which had been commenced in Hindoostan against the Mahrattas in 1803, absorbed a large part of those supplies, particularly the bullion. The same cause had materially affected the credit of the company's paper in India; the provision of the extraordinary supplies required for carrying on

* The estimates, calculations, and official papers, referred to in this place, are to be found, for the most part, in the Asiatic Register for 1808, from page 543 to 586; And the items in dispute between the company and the public, respecting the pay of the king's troops, foreign expeditions, and the manner of making up the account will be found partly in the last-mentioned Volume of the Register, but more at length in the Volume for 1805; title State Papers.

the war became more difficult and expensive, and particularly the procuring of money at the subordinate presidencies for bills on Bengal was attended with a very heavy loss to the company. Impelled by these considerations, the Court of Directors, when lord Cornwallis went out in 1805, still continued their utmost efforts to maintain the supplies to India and China upon the scale of the two preceding years, having not only in view the relief of the finances abroad, and the reduction of financial expence, but the hope of a speedy termination of hostilities; and thence early returns proportioned to the supplies which had been sent abroad. Thus, from the 1st of March, 1803, to the 1st of March, 1806, the amount of those supplies exceeded the amount sent in the three years immediately preceding, in the sum of 2,712,526*l.*; but this was not all. The company's receipts for sales of goods from 1st March, 1803, to the 1st March, 1806, fell short of the receipts in the three years immediately preceding, in no less a sum than 3,268,671*l.* This was partly owing to the diminished supplies of investment from India on account of the war there, and partly to the reduction of the prices of Indian goods in the home market, the consequence of the state of Europe, and by very large importations to London through the medium of British private merchants. It is true, that in the same period of three years, from March, 1803, to March, 1806, the bills of exchange drawn on the company from abroad were considerably less than in the three years preceding; but on a comparison of receipts and payments from March, 1803, to March, 1806, with those of the three years immediately preceding, the result stands thus:

Receipts on account of investments, of charges on private trade, and of interest on annuities, less from 1803 to 1806	3,368,282
Payments, for exports in goods and bullion, for customs, freight, bills of exchange, officers' pay, and dividends; more	1,091,416
Total difference against the latter period	4,459,698*l.*

The particulars of these sums will appear in the account herewith submitted, No. 1.

The estimate laid before Parliament on the 18th July, 1807, of the company's receipts and disbursements for 1807-8, shewed a deficit of 2,213,796*l.* It was in consideration of the state of things exhibited by this account, that the company were last year empowered by law to increase their bonded debt two millions beyond the former limit. As it must be satisfactory to the committee to know what were the real receipts and payments of the year 1807-8, they are stated in the accompanying account, No. 2, in which likewise, for the further satisfaction of the committee, a comparison is made between the estimated and the real receipts and payments of that year, shewing the excess or deficiency of the estimate, and the manner in which the actual deficit of assets was applied by means of extending the issue of company's bonds, and by other aids.

The account, No. 3, next to be mentioned, is that which has more immediately occasioned an application from the Court of Directors to his majesty's government, and in consequence, a reference of the state of the company's affairs to the consideration of this committee. It is an estimate of the receipts and payments of the company from the 1st of March, 1808, to the 1st of March, 1809, in which, after taking credit for the bonds yet remaining to be issued, conformably to the extended power given by the act of last year, the deficit appears to be 2,433,185*l.* Credit is taken in this account for receipts on account of sales in 1808-9, to the amount of only 4,932,146*l.* To shew with what propriety this low sum is assumed, the subsidiary account (D) is submitted. It exhibits the estimated amount of sales for the year 1807-8, with the actual amount of sales in that year, and this again compared with the estimate of sales now in question for the year 1808-9, distinguishing in both years the goods for home consumption and for exportation. It will in general have appeared from the documents already referred to, particularly the statement No. 1, that the deficiencies in the company's home funds, for some past years, have arisen from exporting and paying more on account of India and China, than has been received in the same period from the investments returned by those countries, after deducting the necessary charges on them. The urgent causes which led to large exports of goods and bullion for several years have been already explained. The export of bullion, however, ceased with the year 1805-6, but on account of the obstructions raised on the continent of Europe to the diffusion of the productions of this country there, and the many and urgent representations made by manufacturers, particularly in the great branch of woollens, of the stagnation in their trade, the company, who have long made it a rule to promote to the utmost of their power the exportation of the staples of the mother country, although, as it is well known, that since the commencement of the war in 1793 they have in general lost by them, and might often have sent out

bullion to more advantage, were unwilling unless compelled by the last necessity, to reduce their provision of those articles; and as the woollens, which constitute a very large proportion of their exports, are sent chiefly to China, the returns from whence are more adequate and come to a better market, no considerable reduction could have been made in the export of those woollens, or of specie instead of them, without deranging the usual scale of the returns, and this must have produced other inconveniences in respect to the shipping which the company are engaged to employ, and to the state of the tea trade at home. As another consequence of this unexampled time, extraordinary supplies of troops, of military and naval stores, have been sent in the last two years, and must be further provided for India and for their conveyance an additional quantity of shipping, far beyond what the investment of the company outward and homeward requires, has been, and must necessarily be, employed. Other political charges payable in England, particularly to military officers retired and on furlough, have also increased. Moreover, bills of exchange to a very large amount have been drawn on the company from India and China, either in liquidation of Indian debt, or for the supply of the Canton treasury with bullion; and it is unnecessary to say, that for the payment of these bills provision must be made. The freight, customs, and other charges incident to the goods brought home, are in like manner articles of unavoidable obligation, and must be defrayed from the produce of the sales. All these concurring circumstances of a failure in the usual source of income on the one hand, and of large outgoings, commercial and political, ordinary and extraordinary, on the other, have naturally and necessarily continued to embarrass the home finances of the company, and to present an alarming prospect for the year, 1808-9. But it is more particularly in the diminished receipts from India and China, especially the former, that the recent embarrassments are chiefly to be looked for, and the increased deficit in the years 1807-8, and 1808-9, are distinctly to be referred to this cause.

By the account (B.) hereafter to be described, it will be seen that the sale amount of Indian goods, which in 1798-9 stood at

	l. 4,667,295
and in 1805-6 was reduced to . .	2,251,899
in 1806-7 fell to	1,472,074
in 1807-8 per account (C.) was	1,309,080
and in 1808-9 per Do. is	1,191,213

The causes of these progressive diminutions in the sales must be too well understood to require any particular explanation. The sales of the China investment, which are almost entirely for home consumption, have continued without any very material variation since the year 1798-9, although the factory at Canton is at this time considerably indebted to the company for the excess of the supplies it has received in some late years, above its returns to Europe, as will be shewn hereafter.

As therefore the payments for exports, bills of exchange, and other unavoidable outgoings, have continued in the two last years nearly at the standard of the three preceding years, and the receipts have fallen far below the standard, the cause of deficit both in the past and present year becomes at once apparent. This, however, will be better illustrated by the second part of the account No. 1 in which the comparison made between the period from March 1803, to March 1806, with the period from March 1800 to March 1803, is carried on in the same manner from March 1806 to March 1808.

By comparing the receipts and payments in these two years, with the average receipts and payments of two years in the three from 1800 to 1803, they will stand thus:

Receipts less	*l.* 3,378,850
Payments less, to be deducted . .	171,385
Comparative diminution in the years 1806-7 and 1807-8	3,207,465
To which add the diminution as above stated, from 1803 to 1806	4,459,698
Total comparative diminution of home funds on account of India and China, in five years to 1st March 1808	7,667,163
In this account No. 1, it will be observed that the receipts from March 1803 to March 1808, are	28,885,542
And the payments	36,319,397
Excess of payments	*l.* 7,433,855

It may therefore naturally be an object of enquiry, by what means the company were enabled to make up so large a sum, and the subsidiary account (A.) is intended to afford the requisite explanation on this head; more particularly to illustrate the decrease both in the amount of sales of the company's Indian goods, and in the amount and the rate of profits on them in the last five years, the subsidiary account (B) already noticed, which begins with the year 1798-9 and ends with 1806-7 is produced. It contains also a view of the sales and profits of China goods which will be found not to have fallen off.

The large sum in which, as will be collected from the account, No. 1, India and China have become indebted to the home concern in the course of the last few years, and of which a more particular view will be given

in the sequel, may in consequence of the intended retrenchments in India be expected to be in a considerable degree repaid at no distant period. But, in the meantime, the company have a great amount of property more within their reach. The unsold goods at present in their warehouses in London, and with much certainty expected in the course of the season, valued at the prime cost, amount, according to the enclosed account, No, 4, to 7,148,440*l.* and valued at the selling prices moderately estimated, amount to 13,086,305*l.* To enable the committee to compare the amount of goods on hand at this period, with the amount on hand in former years, as far back as the year 1798-9, the subsidiary account (E.) is exhibited. It will be found on examining this account, that the amount of goods now on hand is, in an absolute sense, unusually large, and also that in a comparative sense it is in still a larger proportion, because it is formed from importations inferior to those of preceding years, with the remains of which the comparison is to be made. The article of tea, which constitutes so considerable a part of the stock of goods on hand, is sure of a sale, because it is chiefly used for home consumption.

To these more immediate resources the Court of Directors think themselves entitled to add the large, and as they conceive, most equitable claim, which the company still have upon government, for the various expenditures made on account of the public in the East Indies; the account of which is now referred to this honourable committee. As a separate representation on this subject will be addressed to the committee, it shall not here be enlarged upon; but the court feel themselves warranted to expect, that the confidence of the company in the liberality of government, and their promptitude to embark in the public service, without exact stipulations for the repayment of their disbursements, should not prejudice them in the settlement of their accounts; and that even what, in a more flourishing state of their affairs, they might have been willing to sacrifice to the public service, will not be exacted from them under the pressures with which they have to struggle; but that, as the present committee are called to consider generally of their affairs, and have unrestricted powers for that end, so they will feel themselves at liberty to award to the company, for their demands on government, whatever sum the justice of the case, rendered more indispensable by the present exigent situation of the company, shall be found to require.

It is not to be denied, that if the want of sales should continue through another year, that is the year 1809-10, the pressure upon the company's home finances will also continue; and for making good whatever the available resources of the company, including the amount to be received by them in liquidation of the debt of government, may not supply both for the current year, according to the account No. 3; and for the year 1809-10, undoubtedly the company will require aid. The amount of goods on hand, or expected in the course of the season, per account No. 4, and which amount, probably, will not be less at any future period, except in the case of more current sales, which change would of itself go far to remove the existing difficulties, may, if security should be required for the loan, form a near and tangible security; but the repayment can be made only gradually, and in such proportions as not to interrupt the necessary currency of the company's affairs. It is to be remembered that, if even the pressure now felt should extend beyond the present year, the large arrears in which India and China are indebted to the home concern may gradually be expected to flow in, and if not immediately to increase the sales, which may also happen, at least to increase the mass of security at home. It is farther to be recollected, that the China trade, which is the most solid source of commercial profit to the company, remains, and is likely to continue entire.

From this source chiefly the company have been enabled to pay the dividends on their stock, regulated by the act of 1793, and have still the prospect of deriving from it sufficient funds for that purpose. The embarrassments which the company now suffer, although immediately aggravated by the obstructions to the national commerce, have in fact their origin, as may be clearly seen from the account No. 1. and another account to be afterwards stated, in political causes. It would be unjust and impolitic, with every fluctuation arising from such causes, to alter the rate of dividend on the stock. It would have the worst effect upon the credit and affairs of the company, and would in particular be unfair to the stockholders, who come in upon the faith of a dividend settled by Parliament, and derive no advantage from all the immense concerns which the company manage, but common interest for their money. The Court of Directors therefore earnestly deprecate the idea of any alteration in the dividend, if any such suggestion should be made.

2. With respect to the Indian finances, after the cessation of the Mahratta wars, which cessation took place about the end of the year 1805, the Court of Directors had reason to expect a speedy and considerable reduction of expenditure there, even reckoning upon large military arrears to be liquidated after the peace.—And although they were considerably disappointed by the result of the year 1806-7, which still shewed a deficit of 1,764,000, without allowing any thing for investment

they had much confidence in the positive, assurances of the governor-general, sir George Barlow, that in the following year there would be a clear and large surplus applicable to the provision of investment, or the reduction of debt.

To the great surprize and mortification of the court, however, the estimate for the year 1807-8, lately received from India, an abstract of which is now before the committee, exhibits, according to the accompanying copy of it, No. 7, a deficit of no less a sum than 1,150,000*l.* and the troops sent out last year will add 150,000l. to this deficit, still without any allowance for investment or commercial charges; which last circumstance is noticed here for the sake of explaining the account, not meaning to imply that the allotment of large investments for Europe would at the present juncture have much relieved the company's home exigencies, though undoubtedly they would have increased the great mass of property possessed by the company in England for the security of its home engagements. But an Indian surplus would still have been of importance, even if applied to investment, because upon the re-opening the channels of commerce, which it may be hoped are not to continue in the present unnatural state, it would have proved an unavailable fund here; or if such a surplus, instead of being applied to investment, had been used to lessen the amount of bills upon the company from India and China, it would have more immediately contributed to alleviate the pressure upon the treasury at home.

3. Under these circumstances the Indian debt must still have been increasing, and according to the best estimate that can be formed of its amount on the first of May, 1808, which is given in the account, No. 8, it will stand at 31,895,000l. On this subject it is impossible, in any general consideration of the company's affairs, to avoid eminently fixing the attention. It is of too comprehensive a nature to be treated fully in such a paper as this is designed to be, and the few observations which shall at present be offered upon it will rather be of a financial and economical kind, growing naturally out of the subject, than directed to any political discussion of the various measures by which the debt has been swelled to its actual magnitude.

Of the many baneful effects confessedly produced by the vast increase of the Indian debt upon all the interests of the company, one has borne, and must continue to bear, directly and powerfully on the home finances, namely the reduction, and at length, the extinction, of the surplus of revenue, from which a million sterling was to be annually appropriated to the purposes of investment. This resource has long been declining, and for a series of years past, in which European war, always productive of extraordinary expence to the company, rendered such a resource more necessary, has entirely ceased. A great part of the interest on the debt has of late been paid, by adding to the capital of that debt. This change in the course of its progress has had a very unfavourable influence upon the home concerns of the company, preventing that improvement of them which would otherwise have taken place according to the intention of the act of 1793, and at length extinguishing the means which formerly enabled the company to defray the political charges payable in England: charges for which there will henceforth be no other fund than what the commerce of the company may furnish, until by economy and retrenchment, a surplus from the revenue shall be again restored. During the period here spoken of there has been on the whole, as the observation just made implies, no diminution of the civil and military expenditures to compensate for the heavier charge of interest; but on the contrary, whilst the revenues have from different acquisitions and annexations been greatly enhanced, the expenditure has kept pace with the increase, and has even outrun it; so that, although when in 1793-4. our revenues were only eight millions per annum, we had a surplus of 1,600,000; now that our revenues are fifteen millions per annum, we have a deficit even in the second year of peace, according to account No. 10, of 1,019,097. That a more distinct view may be exhibited of the financial state of the company abroad at different periods; the account No. 1, has been prepared, to shew the amount of the Indian revenues, of the charges, and surplus or deficit of the company, from the year 1793-4, to the year 1807-8, inclusive; together with the state of the Indian debt through the same space of time. From this account the following periods are extracted for illustrating what is here stated.

	Revenues.	Charges.	Interest.	Surplus.	Deficit.	Amount of Debt.
	£.	£.	£.	£.	£.	L.
1793-4—First year of the company's new charter.	8,276,770	6,066,923	526,205	1,683,642	- - -	Apr. 1793- 7,971,668
						Do.1798-10,866,588
1798-9 - - - -	8,652,032	8,417,812	759,326	- - -	525,106	Do.1799-12,811,863
1802-3 - - - -	11,464,237	11,043,108	1,577,922	843,507	- - -	Do.1803-19,523,737
1805-6 - - - -	15,217,516	15,561,330	2,070,792	- - -	2,414,606	Do.1806-28,538,804
1807-8, per Estimate	14,614,261	13,436,198	2,197,160	- - -	1,019,097	Do.1808-31,895,000

The commercial charges and supplies to Bencoolen &c. are not here included.

The charges are the amount paid in the respective years, as stated in Nos. 2. 5. 8. of the budget accounts.

What is most obvious and striking in this statement, is the increase, not of the charges only, but also of the debt, as the revenues increased, and not merely in proportion to the increase of the revenues; for whilst from the year 1793-4 to the year 1805-6, the amount of the revenues has not been quite doubled, that of the charges has been increased, as five to two, and that of the debt nearly quadrupled, besides a very large sum of debt transferred in the course of that period to England. The greatest increase under all these heads has been since the year 1798-9. The first foundation of the debt was laid by the Mahratta war of 1778. The accumulation of that debt, and of charges, may in most part be accounted for by the foreign expeditions undertaken from India at the desire of his majesty's ministers, the two wars of Mysore, the two wars of 1803-4 and 5, with the Mahratta chiefs, and the permanent increase of military establishments occasioned by these events, and other political measures of the same period.

It has not been unusual to ascribe the increase of the debt in a considerable degree to the company's Indian investment; for the provision of which it has been alleged, that they had not a sufficient capital of their own, and that when a surplus failed to be received from the Indian revenue, there was no way of procuring investment, but by borrowing money in India. This, however, will be found a very inaccurate view of the subject. That advances for the Indian investment have been made from the general treasuries of the company, without discriminating whether commercial funds were at that time forthcoming, and even whilst European goods and stores imported by the company remained unsold, is not to be disputed. The treasuries which supplied those advances may also have been occasionally replenished by loans, as well as by revenue; the annual investments sent to Europe, may moreover have at times exceeded the supplies of goods, stores and bullion, received from Europe, and may have been rather regulated by the general ability of the treasuries abroad, than by the quantum of importations from Europe; but all these circumstances, though they have given colour to the notion now under consideration, are far from proving it. There are other material circumstances to be taken into the account. The company have long been in the habit of paying in England political charges strictly appertaining to the territory. For these charges the company never have credit in the Indian accounts. The large supplies of stores, and part even of the goods sent out annually by the company to India, are intended for political purposes, and the whole amount of them should be brought in India to the credit of the home concerns, from the time they are shipped; but the practice has been to credit the company for them only as they were taken out from the Indian warehouses for use; and no losses of such articles in the way outward, or in India, have ever been brought to the credit of London at all. Moreover, it is evident from what has been already stated in this exposition, that the supplies of goods and bullion from England have at times, at least, exceeded the returns for the same period. The only way, therefore, to come to an accurate conclusion, is to state all that England has received from India and China; and sent to, or paid, for India and China in any given period, and thence to strike the balance. Such a statement is exhibited in the accompanying paper, No. 5, which begins with the year 1797-8, and ends with the year 1806-7. On the one side this statement shews all that has been sent to India and China in goods, stores and bullion, and all that has been paid for bills drawn from thence, or for political charges attaching to the Indian territory; and on the other side, the statement shews all that has been sent from India and China in goods and bills, and all payments received here from government, or payments made in India, for commercial charges; and also for any loss that has occurred in English exports sold there. India and China are not debited for goods lost in the way thither, and they are credited for goods sent thence which have been captured or lost in their passage home. After all these allowances and adjustments, which, according to the best knowledge of the court, comprehend every thing the account ought to contain, the balance is in favour of England, or of the company at home, 5,691,689l. If it be asked from what funds at home the company have been able to bring India so largely indebted? the answer is obvious; from the increase of their capital stock and bonded debt, and from the considerable temporary credits they always have for investments outward. From this account it is clear, that the sum of 19 millions of debt contracted in India since the year 1798-9 down to the year 1807-8, England, or the company in its commercial capacity, is justly chargeable with no part; and that, on the contrary, India has in that period become largely indebted to England. For the fuller illustration of this subject, an account is now preparing, to shew what monies have been received into the Indian treasuries, on any account whatsoever, since the year 1793-4 to the latest period,

and how they have been applied; but this account must necessarily be complex, and require considerable time and labour.

Although it is not the leading purpose of this exposition to treat of the liquidation of the Indian debt, yet it is impossible to advert to its amount, nearly thirty-two millions, as before stated, and the circumstances of the company, without expressing an anxious solicitude for the reduction of a burthen bec‸e intolerable. The first and most obvious means to that end is a retrenchment of the Indian expenditure, so as to produce a large annual surplus of revenue. Urgent and repeated injunctions have been sent to India in the course of the past year on this head, and extreme disappointment has been felt at home that the Indian advices of reductions have, in point of amount, fallen so far short of the expectations entertained here, and have not been so specific as to shew in what articles retrenchments have been effected. It was the earnest wish of the court to take this important affair into their own hands, and they have actually gone a considerable way in preparing a scheme of retrenchments here; but sensible that the local governments must be far better able to judge of the details of such an important reform than persons at this distance, and hoping still for early advices of the completion of it by them, the measure has hitherto been suspended, but with a positive notification to the supreme government that it will certainly be adopted, if the proceedings abroad do not render it unnecessary.

Another mode usually adverted to in the question for liquidating the Indian debt, is by transfer to England, the immediate effect of which would be a saving of the difference between the English and the Indian rate of interest. In the actual state of things this mode seems impracticable, unless the public would, by a loan, enable the company to propose paying off a considerable sum in India, which would probably lead to a reduction of interest there; and upon a sum far more extensive, probably also to the transfer of part of the debt to England. Either way, the company might be able, from the reduction of the rate, and the amount of annual interest now payable in India, to make good the interest of the loan from government, and effect a saving besides.

The plan of funding the Indian debt, which was agitated last year, derives additional recommendation from present and prospective circumstances. The Bengal government have been desired to give their opinion, whether it would be likely to be acceptable in India? and their answer may be expected in the course of the current year. But another measure, also mentioned to the Bengal government, appears now to be indispensable; that of establishing a sinking fund in India. The means are not easy, but it is not impossible to devise some new resources, to which the exigencies of this eventful period ought to reconcile the company, and all whose interests are embarked with theirs. It is obvious, however, that no expedients for reducing the debt can prove sufficiently effectual, unless an absolute limit is put to the increase of expence. In the military department the charges have rapidly advanced of late years, and in one branch of it even since the Mahratta peace; that is, by the augmentation of king's troops sent to India, which the change in our political situation in India by the late war there, and the possibility of new commotions, have required, and which the contingency even of a land invasion of India may render necessary upon a large scale. This subject, although it forms an article in the long account between government and the company, yet, as connected with present and prospective circumstances, it is thought expedient again to introduce here. The company have incurred a very heavy charge on account of these troops, and they think that they have an equitable claim on government, not only for the new and excessive expence to which they have been subjected in the last four years, but for the whole number of king's troops, exceeding the parliamentary limit, which have been sent out since the commencement of the foreign expeditions from India, which began in 1797; and all the subsequent military operations in which those troops assisted, have either immediately served national purposes against the French, as in the war of Mysore, or have been carried on under the controul of his majesty's government. The statement, No. 9, shews the company have a claim on all those accounts to the amount of 1,800,000*l*.

It is now become absolutely necessary to draw the line beyond which the company shall not incur the charge of king's troops sent to India. From all that has just been stated, it is sufficiently plain, that our Indian revenues will not, with requisite allowances for the other branches of public expenditure, suffice for the payment of the present military establishments, of which the king's troops, including their passage to and from India, *and the recruiting service*, form so extensive a part. Reduction, therefore, is here indispensable. Increase, payable from the funds of the company, is impossible; and this is a subject on which a clear and denite understanding is immediately necessary.

For wars growing out of our Indian system, at least before we had spread ourselves, as within these few years we have done, over so much of the continent of Hindostan, our Indian resources, with the aid of loans, have been found ade-

quate. These loans, indeed, have proved prejudicial to the company, and have already been extended to an amount which could not have been pre-conceived. But against the invasion of great European armies by land, the company's revenues can by no means provide, and it may be doubted whether the current revenues of the Mogul empire, when flourishing and under one head, would long have been sufficient for such purpose. If the eastern territory were possessed by an Indian prince, dependent on this country; what more could be expected of him than to use the utmost means his territory afforded against the common enemy? The nation has an interest in preserving the eastern possessions to this country, and from the hands of the French, greater even than that of the company. The company have acquired and maintained them, infinitely more to the advantage of the nation at large, than its own. If those possessions should at length be assailed by powers to which the revenues and resources derivable from them can provide no effectual opposition, it is but just that some part of the wealth which has flowed from them into Great Britain, through public and private channels, for the last fifty years, should be employed in their defence; and in defending them out of means they have themselves furnished, this country will only act in the maintenance of its own essential interests.

After these observations on the debt of the company, it may be proper to advert to the general result of their affairs, as it appears in the last annual account, entitled stock per computation, made up to the first day of March, 1808, and numbered 6. In this statement, after charging the company with the Indian debt up to the latest period to which the Indian quick stock accounts are received, and charging also the capital stock subscribed by the proprietors at the sum of 7,780,000*l.* sterling, the balance against the company is 12,313,153*l.* Without charging the sums due to the proprietors, the balance will be 4,533,153*l.* For this there are the territorial possessions, the forts, settlements and lands constituting the original estate of the company before the acquisition of the Dewannee, and a vast mass of buildings, stores, &c. placed under the head of dead stock, at a sum far inferior to their value. Any efficient plan for the liquidation of the Indian debt will restore the balance of this account to the right side, where it long stood.

To come now to the more immediate purpose of this exposition.—The company, frustrated for a series of past years of the surplus the law intended them to derive from the Indian revenues, largely in advance for India and China; drawn upon from those countries for very considerable sums, partly on account of the Indian debt; and unable from the unexampled circumstances of this time, to sell goods for exportation, which they have to a large amount in their warehouses, the company indispensably need an aid, for which they can look only to the public.

In the estimate, No. 3, of receipts in 1808-9, credit is taken for the balance not yet used of the two millions of bonds, which the company were empowered, by the act of last session, to issue. Still the sum wanted to meet the exigences of the ensuing year, amounts to nearly two millions and an half sterling. That the national interest is concerned in the support of the company, and that under all the circumstances described in this statement, they are entitled to public support in the present exigence of their affairs, it is hoped will not be disputed. In what manner that support should be afforded, it is for government and for parliament to determine. A few observations, however, upon this subject shall be submitted. The present is a most inauspicious time for the increase of the capital stock, and possibly the rumours already afloat, of a French expedition through Persia would obstruct the success of such an attempt; neither would it be advisable to extend the issue of bonds beyond the sum of five millions, to which the law now permits the company to go, for there is always a danger of their being poured in for teas, and other goods, purchased at the sales. It is true, that our exports of British manufactures, which are estimated to be continued on the usual large scale, might be lessened, and in case of necessity, recourse must undoubtedly be had to this measure; but it would be very inexpedient, both as deranging the established routine of the company's commerce, and as exposing a numerous body of manufacturers of this country, who now have little employment besides the company's, to aggravated distress. The debt still owing by government to the company, although against it may be placed the contingencies of the year 1809-10, is one obvious resource; and on this head it may be permitted to remark, that if some years ago it was a great hardship put upon the company to cut them down so much in the repayment of large sums, which their zeal for the public interest, and confidence in the liberality of government, induced them to advance with inconvenience to themselves, surely, when they are reduced to such straits, it would be unjust to insist on such a mode of settlement. It is again submitted, therefore, whether the whole account should not be thrown open, in order to be settled upon a more equitable footing. To the demands originally contained in this account, must now be added the expence of maintaining in India the king's troops exceeding the

parliamentary limit, according to the statement of it, which will be found in the account No. 9.

The account No. 5, shews that the company are subjected to large annual payments in England for military and other charges appertaining to the territory. As the territory, from its defect of surplus, does not now pay the company for those charges, might it not be natural and proper for government to assist the company by making an advance to be hereafter repaid, for the amount of those charges disbursed in the last four years, and to be sustained in the ensuing year. The company's disbursements under this head, for four years, may amount, as already stated, to 1,800,000*l.* and, as they include the expence of sending king's troops and military stores to India, it seems the more reasonable that government should relieve the company, by affording a liberal accommodation on the ground of those expences. Whatever part of the 2,433,185*l.* deficient for the ensuing year, is not liquidated by payment of the government debt by an advance in the way just mentioned, or by reducing the company's exports, they must of necessity look for from public aid; and this important concern is the more urgent, because it will appear from the estimate, No. 3, that the wants of the company will become large in the month of April, and if there should be any demur in their payments, the credit of the company, under the apprehensions excited by rumours of the French designs against India, will be affected, and demands more pressed upon them.

Before concluding, the executive body of the company think it may be proper for them to declare, that they are not conscious of having, by improvidence or mismanagement, contributed to bring the company's affairs into the embarrassments in which they are now involved. They may be placed, in a very material degree, to the vast increase of the Indian debt, the consequence of various measures adopted abroad, under the administration of controul exercised by his majesty's government since the year 1784. Those embarrassments proceed also in part from causes which it has not been in the power of this country to controul. An unexampled European war, which has already continued fourteen years, has in every way aggravated the expences, and diminished the profits of the company at home and abroad. The increased charges of freight and demurrage alone occasioned by this war have amounted, since its commencement, to more than seven millions sterling. Whenever Great Britain is involved in European war, the effects are always felt in India in increased military expences, even when no European enemy appears in the field there; but that war has been carried into India, and, at the desire of his majesty's government, the company have had to sustain the expence of various foreign expeditions to the French, Dutch, and Spanish possessions in India, and to Egypt, all chiefly on the national account; in which, as is well known, the company expended very large sums, borrowed at high Indian interest, to the prejudice of their general credit and affairs, in ways which cannot be made matter of account. This war moreover has occasioned a gradual rise in the cost of home manufactures and metals, which the company, consulting the national interest, have continued to export for many years to the extent of 2,200,000*l.* annually, notwithstanding the known disadvantage under which they prosecuted that trade; for the increased cost could not be compensated by a corresponding increase in the selling prices abroad, nor by a decrease in the prices of goods purchased for Europe, and has therefore been attended with positive and considerable loss to the Company. The progressive diminution of profit on their Indian importations here, has been already shewn in the subsidiary account No. (B) All those evils are now followed by a stagnation in the home sales of the company. In this they suffer with the nation, and with Europe at large, but the consequences, as already described, fall with peculiar severity upon them in the other circumstances of their affairs; for the Indian finances, which are become of immense importance in the system of the company, instead of affording relief, are in a state that imperiously calls for instant and effectual regulation. It is by no means to be concluded, however that affairs would now have been better under any other supposable mode of Indian administration; it is perfectly within the power of this country to afford the aids which are now required for the relief of the company's finances, both at home and abroad; for consolidating the credit of the company, and strengthening the hands of the authorities at home, so necessary to the well-being of the company's affairs.

Signed by order of the
Court of Directors,
W. Ramsey, Sec.

East India House,
1st April, 1808.

Supplement to the "Exposition of the state of the company's finances."

In that paper, an estimate was given of the home receipts, and expenditures, for the year commencing 1st March, 1808, and ending 1st March, 1809;—which shewed a deficit of 2,433,185*l.*—The actual receipts and expenditures of that year, compared with the estimate, are now submitted to the committee in the accompanying account No. 1. It will be seen from this account, that besides some sums received to be repaid in the following year, and some variations of no

great amount between the real and estimated payments, the expected deficit of 2,433,185*l*. was supplied by receipts beyond the estimate from the following sources, viz.

Receipts from sales of imports, more than reckoned upon . . .	851,345
Receipts for charges and freight on private trade, more	168,813
	L. 1,020,158
Received on account of the company's claims on the public, upon the report of the committee	1,500,000
	L. 2,520,158

By these means the aid for which the company applied to his majesty's government in January, 1808, became unnecessary for the service of that year.

On the 1809, there was laid before this committee an estimate of the company's home receipts and payments for the year, from 1st March, 1809, to 1st March, 1810, shewing a deficit of only 141,722*l*. The actual receipts and payments of that year, compared with the estimate, will appear in the accompanying account No. 2. If from this account be excluded the receipts and payments for private trade and tea duties, which are only matters of transfer, the other receipts of that year, including the balance in hand (besides tea duties) at its commencement, will be found to have sufficed for the other payments, and to have furnished some surplus.

The estimate, however, of receipts and disbursements for the year from 1st March, 1810, to 1st March, 1811, No. 3, now laid before the committee, presents a different result, exhibiting a deficiency of no less a sum than 2,038,948*l*. Two causes, extremely adverse to the company, and wholly out of their controul, have produced this deficiency. The one is a loss in their shipping in the years 1808 and 1809, to an extent altogether unexampled; the other, drafts to a very large amount made upon them from abroad on account of the Indian territorial debt.

The prime cost of goods laden on the ships lost in coming from India amounts by the accounts No. 4, to 711,456*l*. Adding to this sum the prime cost of goods, and a ship belonging to the company lost outward bound, being 174,712*l*. the total prime cost is 881,668*l*.; and adding again to this the estimated profit on the sales, the whole is 1,202,638*l*. So unprecedented a loss of ships within the space of one year, has occasioned a very particular enquiry on the part of the Court of Directors into the causes of these disasters; and as the subject may naturally engage the attention of this honourable committee, the report which a large committee of the directors have made upon it, is herewith submitted in the paper No. 4; from thence the court trust it will appear, that these misfortunes, uncommon as they are, have been owing chiefly to extraordinary tempests, or to the captures of the enemy, and not to any defect or errors in the structure, equipment, or loading of the ships, or to any want of skill and conduct in those who commanded them.

Of bills drawn and expected to be drawn from India, on account of the territorial debt, and falling due between the 1st March, 1810, and 1st March, 1811, the amount is by the accompanying account No. 5, 2,236,188*l*.

The aggregate amount of the goods lost which otherwise might have come into the assets of 1810-11, and of bills payable for the Indian debt within that year is 3,438,826*l*.; a sum much exceeding the deficit which appears in the estimated receipts of the same year, compared with its payments.

It has always been perfectly understood, that in the most flourishing times of the company, their commercial resources could not be adequate to the discharge of the Indian territorial debt, and especially of late years, since the debt has progressively advanced to thirty millions sterling, and the company's Indian commerce has, from various causes, declined both in amount and profit; the liquidation of any large portion of that debt from the home funds of the company, has been altogether out of the question. But as a very great part of the debt was unfortunately contracted under an option to the lender, of receiving payment first of the interest and finally of the principal in England, the commissioners for the affairs of India and his majesty's government, have been, for several years at least, quite aware, that if any considerable sum of debt should in consequence be transferred to England, the company would necessarily require public aid for the liquidation of it.

Even the unexampled losses which they have sustained in one year by sea, as already explained, would probably in any former time have required and procured the temporary assistance of government. On both these accounts therefore, forming such strong pleas for public aid, the Court of Directors humbly entertain a confident hope, that it will be accorded to them in such manner as to provide for the apparent deficit for the year 1810-11.

Of the goods which are now, or in the course of the season expected to be, in the company's warehouses at home, the paper No. 6, which accompanies this, contains

an account, shewing the prime cost to be 6,133,257*l.* and the sale value, by estimate, 12,524,965*l.*

In the course of the year, 1811-12, the Court of Directors expect to be supplied with very large investments from India, which ought indeed to have been sent to answer the bills drawn above-mentioned for the Indian debt, and those supplies have been required in order to meet the exigencies of that year. The most earnest injunctions have also been transmitted to the Indian governments, to avoid as much as possible drawing farther for the territorial debt; and it appears highly probable that they will not be under the necessity of doing so, since a large portion of the decennial loans payable in England, falling due in 1809 and 1810, have been renewed at a diminished interest, and without the optional clause. And indeed there is reason to believe, that less of the debt would have been transferred to England, if, when payment was tendered in India all the principals had been there, because their private agents could not exercise the discretion which principals might have used, of continuing in the company's hands, instead of remitting to England, the payments tendered. The Court of Directors have therefore issued orders calculated to remedy this inconvenience, and prevent its recurrence in future, as also to encourage the creditors of the company, who have returned, or may return, to Europe, to continue their property in the company's hands, by making the company's government the agents for the safe custody of their bonds, and the regular transmission of the interest to England by bills on the Court of Directors.

The increase of investment which has been ordered from India is due to the home concern. By an account laid before the honourable committee, and referred to in the first part of this supplement, it was shewn, that upon a fair statement of account between India and China on the one hand, and England on the other, for a series of years from 1797-8 to 1805-6, there was a balance in favour of England of 5,101,689*l.* This balance arose after crediting India and China for all goods exported by them to England, whether those goods arrived or not, for all commercial charges, for all bills remitted, and for payments received from government at home for Indian disbursements on account of the public; India and China being debited on the other hand only with the goods sent them, which arrived at the sale price with the bills drawn by them, and with political charges incurred at home on account of the territory.

An account of the same kind is now carried on from the year 1805-6 to the year 1807-8 inclusive, and is herewith laid before the committee, No. 7. It shews a balance in favour of England of 3,017,172l. a considerable part of which is still in the factory at Canton, inconveniently for the company, but not immediately reducible, except by diminishing greatly the export of woollens from this country. The most moderate estimate for the year 1810-11 will not lessen the balance of 3,017,172l. above stated.

Since the month of April, 1808, when the first part of this exposition was delivered to the committee, the markets at home for Indian commodities have improved. The accompanying account No. 8, shews the sales made in that time both of India and China goods, and the profits accruing thereon. Comparing the average of these two years with the sales of 1807, it will be found, that with respect to Indian goods, the excess in favour of the two years is per annum 695,744l. on the sales, and that instead of a loss of 486,020l. which occurred in the years 1807-8 and 1808-9, there is in the year 1809-10, a profit of 130,174l. Of the China goods, the sales and profits which were before considerable, have also improved.

On the whole of the home concern, it is to be observed, that though the pressure on the company's finances here is severe, the transfer of Indian debt which mainly occasions it, does not deteriorate, but improves, the affairs of the company, since it produces an immediate reduction of interest; and as to the late losses by sea, though undoubtedly very heavy, and happening most unseasonably, yet it will be found on a general survey of the financial affairs of the company, that they are better than they were a year ago. This leads to a consideration of the Indian finances.

According to the former exposition, the estimated result of the year 1806-7 shewed a deficit of 1,764,000l, and the estimate for the year 1807-8 a deficit likewise of 1,300,000l. including 150,000l. for the expence of troops sent in that year from England, so that the aggregate deficiency of both years thus amounted to 3,064,000l.

From the actual accounts of 1806-7, since received, the final deficiency of that year appears to be 3,253,900*l.* the excess of this result of the actual accounts above the estimate arises chiefly from the following causes. 1st. Bringing into the accounts of this year no less a sum than 972,000l. which was not in the estimate for Bengal military charges of former years. 2d. A defalcation in the estimated amount of the Madras revenues of no less a sum than 400,000l. owing to a calamitous season. 3d. An excess also in the Bombay military charges of 262,000l. occasioned by the payment of arrears of former years, which were not included in the estimate.

The estimate for the year 1807-8 was formed from imperfect materials. According-

ing to the correcter account, presented to the House of Commons in June, 1809, the result should have been more favourable by 200,000l. leaving a deficiency of 1,075,577l.

The revenues have however been more productive than this estimate by 772,000l. the charges and interest were more by 68,000l.; the deficiency is therefore reduced to 370,000l.

The actual accounts for the year 1808-9, lately received, shew a deficiency of 131,281l. which is 430,000l. less than the estimated deficit of that year, and the estimates for 1809-10, shew a deficiency of 119,806l.

The first estimates received from India for this year, 1809-10, were denominated prospective, or sketch estimates, and promised a very different result. From these it was to be expected, that instead of a deficiency there would have been a surplus revenue of 568,000l. The regular estimates since received from Madras and Bombay, under a correction of the Bengal estimate given in a letter from the accountant-general (by which the revenues are stated at 70,000l. less, and the charges at 290,000l. more than in the first account, have brought the result to the deficiency now stated.

One material cause of this more unfavourable result in the estimate of 1809-10, is an increase in the military charges at Madras, which are now estimated at near 800,000l. more than they were at first. In this sum there are certain arrears included which were not in the original estimate, and as the latter estimate is dated in October, 1809, it is probable that consideration was given to the circumstances which had occurred in the Madras army, probably to an increase of expence beyond the former estimate; but it must be confessed that these will not account in any satisfactory manner for so large a difference of military charges in the two accounts.

The retrenchments that have been effected since 1805, may be calculated at 2,300,000l. and if a comparison be made between the estimated charges for 1809-10, and the average actual charges from 1804-5 to 1806-7, in the accounts of which years the expences incidental to the war are included, the difference will be 1,530,000l; only it would appear that the diminution of 800,000l. hereby apparent, is to be attributed to the large amount at which the military charges are stated in the estimates for 1809-10.

But as the result of these estimates differ so materially from the expectation held out in the financial letters received from Bengal, dated 20th September, and 17th December, 1808, and 20th April, 1809, it may be proper to examine into the causes of the difference more at large.

In the letter of the 20th September, 1808, the result of the estimates for 1808-9 is stated to be a surplus of 2,17,000l. Sa. Rs.

To this is added the difference between the military and durbar charges of Bengal, on a peace establishment, and the sum included in the Bengal estimate for those charges being Sa. Rs. 33,40,000, thus shewing an estimated surplus, upon this supposition of a peace establishment, of Sa. Rs. 35,57,000.

The letter then proceeds to add to this sum, sundry articles of expected improvements in the revenues, and savings in charges and interest, to the amount of eighty-five lacks of rupees, in order to shew that a surplus might be obtained of Sa. Rs. 9,20,10,000, or a million and a half sterling.

But the 20th paragraph of the letter is in the words following:—

Whilst the present aspect of affairs in India continues, and we are in consequence under the necessity of increasing our military disbursements, and of incurring a very considerable additional expence on account of foreign embassies, it is not to be expected that any surplus revenue will be derived from your Indian possessions. But whenever the necessity of incurring these extraordinary charges shall cease, we have no hesitation in declaring to your honourable court, that we entertain no doubt whatever of obtaining a clear annual surplus to a much greater amount than what the nation and the company seem to expect from British India."

In the letter of the 17th December, 1808, it is observed, that the more regular estimates for 1808-9 having been received from Madras and Bombay, the corrected surplus, according to these statements, would be Sa. Rs. 4,53,557, but on the supposition that the regular estimates contain a much larger sum for military and durbar charges than would be required on a peace establishment, there is assumed for this excess a sum of Sa. Rs. 70,92,000, which is added to the above, and with the addition of Sa. Rs. 48,76,000 for the several articles of expected improvements and savings, detailed in the former dispatch, the total surplus revenue is stated at Sa. Rs. 1,24,21,557.

The 59th paragraph of this letter runs thus. "Under every point of view in which we can place the resources and expenditure of this country, we therefore arrive at the same satisfactory result of a surplus revenue on a peace establishment greatly exceeding a million sterling."

It will be evident, from the foregoing extracts, that a very considerable part of the expected surplus is made to depend upon the practicability of bringing the expences to a peace establishment; for no less a sum than Sa. Rs. 70,92,000, or according to the rate of exchange adopted in the dispatches, 886,500*l.* is included in the calculation as going to form the expected surplus of a million, or a million and a half sterling.

Now the estimates for 1809-10 hold out no prospect of such a reduction in the

military and durbar charges as will bring them to the desired level; on the contrary, these charges, instead of being only sicca rupees 70,92,000 more than what has been considered in the Bengal letter of 17th December, 1808, as the proper standard for a peace establishment, are sicca rupees 1,44,00,000 above that standard.

This circumstance of itself may sufficiently account for the disappointment experienced at the result of the present year's estimate, after expectations of so different a nature had been raised by the communications from the Bengal government in the dispatches above quoted; it appears indeed that the estimates for 1808-9, taking them without the hypothetical calculations for a peace establishment, were not so favourable as the actual accounts for that year; and as to the estimates for 1809-10, it is still to be recollected that, as before observed, the expected surplus of a million sterling or more is made to depend in a great measure upon the reduction of the charges to a peace establishment, which has not however yet been accomplished. The reasons for the high estimate of military and dubar charges at Bengal are accounted for in the letter on the finances of the 23d August, 1809, paras. 26 a. 28, and are summarily these: In consequence of its having been found impracticable to withdraw the temporary embassies, and to place the army upon the ordinary establishment at so early a period as was expected; the payment to the Persian government of the sum stipulated by sir Harford Jones; and the embassy to Cabul.

It is not easy to account for the large estimate of military charges at Madras, unless it may be attributed to the consequence of the late disturbances there, which, as before remarked, may have been in contemplation when the estimate dated in October, 1809, was contemplated.

Many of the items reckoned upon by the Bengal government, as constituting the expected surplus of a million and a half, were prospective, and it does not appear that measures to give them full effect have hitherto been adopted.

Amongst these, an increase in the opium sales to the amount of ten lacks was included, but the sales are estimated at no higher amount for 1809-10 than they were in the preceding year.

It was expected that the customs would, by the re-opening of the trade with foreign Europe be increased to the amount of seven lacks; of course this has not yet had effect.

Ten lacks are estimated from new sources of revenue, and from modifications in the Abkarry and stamp duties, and improvement in the town duties. The estimate for 1809-10 does not justify the belief that one-fourth of this sum is included on these accounts.

It was stated that taxes to be levied in the towns of Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, under an act of the legislature to be obtained for that purpose, would produce sicca rupees 8,74,000. The Bengal estimate includes two lacks for house tax, but no other article.

It is presumed to be unnecessary to pursue this investigation farther, and that enough has been said to shew the causes of disappointment in the expectation held out by the Bengal government, in the letters of the 20th September and 17th December, 1808, of a future surplus of a million and a half sterling.

Still the object of obtaining a considerable surplus of income above expenditure, must be pursued, as of absolute and indispensable necessity, and there are grounds to hope that, by new retrenchments and other means, it is not unattainable. In the present tranquillity of India, it may be practicable to reduce the military establishments, and the extent to which the expence of king's troops there has already gone, not only far exceeds the parliamentary limit, but goes beyond what the revenues of the country can bear. A view of its progressive increase is given in the account No. 10.

The transfer of a large portion of the Indian debt from India to Europe would of itself produce, as formerly observed, this most important and desirable end, by effecting at once a saving of 3 per cent. in the interest, which might be formed into a sinking fund for the gradual discharge of the principal; a plan, with the aid of Parliament, perfectly practicable with security to the public.

The Indian debt, by the accounts made up to the 1st May, 1809, deducting the sums redeemed by the sinking fund, stood as per account No. 11, at 10,876,788*l.* and the same account exhibits the progressive increase of the debt, as the account No. 12, furnishes an average view of the revenues, the charges, and the interest on the debt, at different periods, up to the year 1809-10.

The general result of the company's affairs, at home and abroad, on the 1st March, 1810, will be seen in the account No. 9, called stock, per computation. The nature of this account was explained in the former exposition, in nearly the following terms: it charges the company with the Indian debt up to the latest period to which the Indian quick stock accounts are received, and charges also the capital stock subscribed by the proprietors at the sum of 7,780,000*l.* after which the balance against the company will be 15,107,307*l.* without charging the sums due to the proprietors, the balance will be 7,327,307*l.* For this there are the

territorial possessions, the forts, settlements, and lands constituting the original estate of the company, before the acquisition of the dewannee, and a vast mass of buildings, stores, &c. placed under the head of dead stock, at a sum far inferior to their value. Any efficient plan for the liquidation of the Indian debt will restore the balance of this account to the right side, where it long stood.

After thus explaining the present state of the company's finances, the object to which the Court of Directors would humbly solicit the particular attention of the honourable committee, is, the deficit already pointed out in the account, No. 3. in the home resources for 1810-11, amounting to 2,038,948*l.* The causes of this deficit have also been explained, and the company being unable otherwise to supply it, are about at present to present an humble petition to parliament for aid, which they trust the committee will be of opinion, after an examination of all the statements submitted to them, and particularly of the account, No. 6, may be safely granted them, since that statement shews, as before-mentioned, the value of goods in their warehouses, and expected in the course of the present year, to be 12,524,965*l.* which will be ample security for the aid which the company solicit of the public, and for which all their possessions besides will be responsible.

Signed, by order of the Court of Directors.

W. Ramsay, sec.

East India House,
8th April, 1810.

No. 1.

Comparison of the Actual Receipts and Payments of the East India Company, from 1st March, 1808, to the 1st March, 1809; with an Estimate Account of the same, as drawn out in March, 1808.

	Estimated Amount.	Actual Amount.	More than Estimated.	Less than Estimated.
RECEIPTS.	L.	L.	L.	L.
Cash in the treasury, 1st March, 1808, (Morning,) including duty on tea - - -	723,693	723,693	—	—
Company's goods sold, and to be sold - - - -	4,932,146	5,783,491	851,345	—
Hon. Board of Ordnance, for saltpetre - - -	185,000	160,000	-	25,000
Private trade goods sold -	260,000	1,669,442	1,409,442	—
Charges and profit on private trade - - - -	80,000	171,169	91,169	—
Customs.........on...ditto -	-	47,010	47,010	—
F eight..........on...ditto -	100,000	177,724	77,724	—
Bank, for interest on the Company's share of the annuities -	36,226	36,226	—	—
Commissioners of navy, on account of hemp to be provided for government in India -	-	80,000	80,000	—
Bonds issued - - -	694,725	756,700	61,975	—
Government, on account of the Company's claims - -	-	1,500,000	1,500,000	—
Duty on tea received - -	-	3,369,986	3,369,986	—
Almshouses at Poplar - -	-	620	620	—
L.	7,011,790	14,476,061	7,489,271	25,000
Balance against, as per Est. Acct.	2,433,185			
L.	9,444,975			
PAYMENTS.				
Customs - - - -	59,884	148,782	88,898	—
Freight and demurrage - -	1,888,405	1,868,742	-	19,663
Goods and stores exported -	2,044,959	1,763,112	-	281,847
India debt	-	47,709	47,709	—
Bills of exchange from India and China	1,978,031	1,970,574	-	7,457
Charges, general, including supra cargoes' commission, interest on loans, &c. . . .	758,000	697,775	-	60,225
Dividends on stock, and interest on bonds	857,000	843,433	-	13,567
Bonds advertised to be paid off .	15,517	-	-	15,517
Bonds paid in on sales . . .	-	107,500	107,500	—
Proprietors of private trade .	310,000	1,629,070	1,319,070	—
Pay to marine and military officers on furlough, and retired from service . . .	160,000	166,048	6,048	—
Warrants passed the Court unpd.	40,700	-	-	40,700
Buyers of tea returned . .	971	-	-	971
Duty on tea paid . . .	1,331,508	4,283,658	2,952,150	—
Bullion exported . .	-	207,260	207,260	—
Ditto, on account of hemp, to be provided for govt. in India . .	-	80,243	80,243	—
Creditors, Nabob of Arcot .	-	7,138	7,138	—
L.	9,444,975	13,821,044	4,816,016	439,947
Balance in favour as per actual account - -		655,017		
L.		14,476,061		

(Errors excepted,)

East India House,
28th March, 1809.

CHAS. CARTWRIGHT, Acct.-Gen.

No. 2.

Comparison of the actual Receipts and Payments of the East India Company, from the 1st March, 1809, to the 1st March, 1810; with an estimated account of the same, as drawn out in March, 1809.

	Estimated Amount.	Actual Amount.	More than Estimated.	Less than Estimated.
RECEIPTS.	L.	L.	L.	L.
Cash in the treasury, 1st March, 1809, (Morning) including duty on tea .	655,017	655,017	—	—
Company's goods sold, and to be sold .	5,904,300	6,094,422	190,122	—
Hon. Board of Ordnance, for saltpetre	150,000	119,079	-	30,921
Private trade goods sold . . .	158,100	1,457,888	1,299,788	—
Charges and profit on private trade .	120,000	105,686	-	14,314
Customs . on . do. .	-	47,233	47,233	—
Freight . on . do. .	100,000	187,802	87,802	—
Bank, for interest on the Company's share of the annuities : . . .	36,226	36,227	1	—
Bonds issued	-	45,600	45,600	—
Duty on tea received	-	3,161,191	3,161,191	—
Commissioners of his Majesty's navy, on account of hemp to be provided in India	-	80,000	80,000	—
Persons returned from India . .	-	10,000	10,000	—
L.	7,123,643	12,000,145	4,921,737	45,235
Balance against per estimate account, exclusive of duty upon tea . .	141,722			
L.	7,265,365			
PAYMENTS.				
Customs	118,541	147,448	28,907	—
Freight and demurrage . . .	1,479,630	1,290,026	-	189,604
Goods and stores exported . . .	1,921,187	1,784,996	-	136,191
Bills of exchange from India and China	1,308,484	2,099,539	791,055	—
Charges, general, including supra cargoes commission, interest on loans, &c. .	721,700	627,438	-	94,262
Dividends on stock, and interest on bonds.	873,000	879,696	6,696	—
Bonds advertised to be paid off . .	15,517	100	-	15,417
Proprietors of private trade . .	191,100	1,385,041	1,193,941	—
Pay to marine and military officers on furlough, and retired from service .	160,000	171,918	11,918	—
Warrants passed the Court unpaid .	57,400	-	-	57,400
Buyers of tea returned . . .	971	-	-	971
Duty on tea paid	417,835	2,953,220	2,535,385	—
Creditors, nabob of Arcot . . .	-	3,822	3,822	—
Almshouses at Poplar . . .	-	2,734	2,734	—
L.	7,265,365	11,345,978	4,574,458	493,845
Balance in favour p. actual account, including L. 625,807. Duty upon tea . . .		654,167		
L.		12,000,145		

East India House,
March 23, 1810.

(Errors excepted.)
CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
Acct. Genl.

No. 3.*

Estimate of Receipts and Disbursements of the East India Company, from 1st March, 1810, to 1st March, 1811.

No. 4.†

An Estimate of the Loss sustained by the East India Company, by the capture and wreck of shipping, 1807-8, and 1808-9.

No. 5.‡

An Account of Bills drawn from India, on account of the Indian debt falling due between 1st March, 1810, and 1st March, 1811.

No. 6.

Prime Cost and Sale Value of goods in the Warehouses of the East India Company, on the 1st March, 1810, and expected in the course of the present Season: distinguishing India and China.

	Prime Cost.	Sale Value.
INDIA.	L.	L.
Piece Goods	1,160,807	1,724,412
Raw Silk	362,640	532,940
Indigo	287,390	421,260
Cotton Wool	134,019	264,945
Pepper	309,580	454,474
Saltpetre	115,370	740,000
Spice	83,605	210,822
Sugar, Drugs, &c	33,492	52,760
L.	2,486,903	4,401,611
CHINA.		
Teas	3,490,605	7,876,684
Raw Silk	130,749	211,670
Nankeens	25,000	35,000
L.	3,646,354	8,123,354
Total India	2,486,903	4,401,611
China	3,646,354	8,123,354
L.	6,133,257	12,524,965

East India House,
8th April, 1810.

(Errors excepted.)
C. CARTWRIGHT,
Acct. Genl.

* This is the same with the Appendix, No. 3, to the report of the select committee of the House of Commons, on the Company's petition.

† The same with the Appendix, No. 2.

‡ The same with the Appendix, No. 1, to the report of the select committee of the House of Commons.

No.

An Account, exhibiting the balance of the East India Company's supplies

SEASONS OUTWARD: September to September.	Goods and Stores.	Bullion Invoice Amount.	TOTAL Exports.	SEASONS HOMEWARD: September to September.	Bills of Exchange.
	L.	L.	L.		L.
1806-7	2,445,475	....	2,445,475	1807-8	1,858,445
1807-8	2,133,975	200,922	2,334,897	1808-9	2,906,468
L.	4,579,450	200,922	4,780,372	L.	4,764,913

		L.
Balance against India, brought down		3,822,422
	L.	
Deduct—Sale of Ships built in India	169,986	
Received of Government in England, on account of the Company's claims	1,500,000	
Payments made in India on account of England, and Bills Exchange in favour of the Company	223,935	
Cost of Imports supplied the Cape of Good Hope	5,014	
		1,898,935
Balance against India, carried up	L.	1,923,487

The Balance of Stock at China, in favour of the Company, made up to March, 1809,

East India House,
8th April, 1810. (Errors excepted.)

No.

View of the Company's Profit on the Company's Indian and China

INDIA.

YEARS.	TOTAL COST. Customs, Freight, and Charges, including Commercial Charges in India not added to invoices.	Sale Amount.	Profit.	Loss.
	L.	L.	L.	L.
1807-8	1,726,412	1,310,215	....	416,197
1808-9	1,827,577	1,757,754	....	69,823
1809-10	2,123,990	2,254,164	130,174	....
				486,020

Sale Amount, India, 1807-8	1,310,215
Do. upon an average for the years 1808-9, and 1809-10.	2,005,959
Better, latter period L.	695,744

East India House, 8th April, 1810. (Errors excepted.)

between India and China, and England, for the years 1806-7 *and* 1807-8. (*England.*)

Loss on Exports.	Total Supplies.	Imports: Imports Amount,	Commercial Charges in India not added to Invoices.	Total Imports.	Imports, less.
L.	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*
estd. 60,000	4,243,920	2,739,053	181,640	2,920,693	1,323,227
estd. 60,000	5,181,365	2,502,170	estd. 180,000	2,682,170	2,499,195
120,000	9,425,285	5,241,223	361,640	5,602,863	3,822,422

Balance against India, brought up		*L.* 1,923,487
	L.	
Add—Officers on furlough, to 1st March, 1809 . .	324,149	
Passage Military . Do.	195,304	
Political Charges, included in charges general .	406,049	
Do. . Do. . in Accounts of freight and demurrage	151,331	
Paid agents in England, produce captured spices sold at Canton	9,714	
Interest on sums provisionally adjudicated the creditors of the Nabob of Arcot	7,138	
		1,093,685
Balance against India in 2 years, 1806-7, and 1807-8. (England) . *L.*		3,017,172

is Tales, 3,919,819, or at 6s. 8d. the Tale £. 1,306,606.

CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
Acct. Gen.

8.

investment; from the years 1807-8, *to the years* 1809-10, *inclusive.*

CHINA.			TOTAL.		
Total Cost, Customs, Freight and Charges.	Sale Amount.	Profit.	Total Cost, Customs, Freight, and Charges.	Sale Amount.	Profit.
L.	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*	*L.*
2,849,940	3,846,756	996,816	4,576,352	5,156,971	580,619
2,925,630	3,988,267	1,062,637	4,753,207	5,746,021	992,814
2,578,374	3,723,116	1,144,742	4,702,364	5,977,280	1,274,916

CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
Acct. Gen.

No.

Dr. . . . . *Stock, per computation,*

			L.
To bonds bearing interest			4,900,000
To bonds not bearing interest			15,417
To bills of exchange unpaid, from China			362,469
To . . do. . . from India			2,241,044
To customs and excise on goods sold, and customs on goods unsold			753,697
To the bank, for a loan on mortgage of the annuities that may be sold, per act of 1788			700,000
To . do. . for a loan on bond			100,000
To . do. . for interest on the above loans, to 8th March			10,666
To freight and demurrage			336,200
To supra cargoes, commission, on all goods sold and unsold			134,660
To proprietors of private trade on all goods sold			322,000
To almshouses at Poplar			69,544
To what owing for exports of former seasons			164,990
To ditto to the warehouse contingent fund			19,633
To warrants passed the court unpaid			68,000
To what owing for teas returned by the buyers, and re-sold			971
To interest on bonds			90,902
To dividends on stock			67,795
To what paid by the adventurers, being 87½ per cent. on	L. 3,200,000	2,800,000	
To additional capital sold to do. . 155	800,000	1,240,000	
To . do. . in 1789 . 174	1,000,000	1,740,000	
To . do. . in 1793 . 200	1,000,000	2,000,000	
	L. 6,000,000	7,780,000	7,780,000

		Sicca Rupees.			
To balance of quick stock against the company at Bengal, made up to 31st July, 1808.		10,39,95,941			
Add expedition to Egypt, &c. included in the home account		1,10,60,649			
Sicca Rupees .		11,50,56,590			
Current Rupees.		13,34,65,644			
— the sum given by lord Clive, for constituting a military fund	11,50,720				
— cargoes dispatched for England, the invoices of which, are dated since the close of the quick stock	77,12,942				
		88,63,662			
Current Rupees .		14,23,29,306 a. 2/3.	L. 16,012,046		
Deduct bills of exchange drawn since the close of the quick stock			1,209,174		
					14,802,872
		Bombay Rs.			
By balance of quick stock against the Company at Bombay, made up to the 30th April, 1809.		1,82,30,102			
Add cargoes dispatched for England, the invoices of which are dated since the close of the quick stock		3,51,280			
Bombay Rupees .		1,86,31,382 a. 2/6	L. 2,328,922		
Deduct bills of exchange drawn on England since the close of the quick stock			223,199		
					2,105,723
				L.	35,045,683

East India House,
March 28, 1810.

(Errors excepted.)
Chas. Cartwright,
Accountant-General.

on the 1*st March*, 1810.. Cr.

		L.
By what due from government to the Company		1,207,560
By cash, its balance on the 1st March, 1810		654,167
By the amount of goods sold, not paid for		580,351
By the hon. Board of Ordnance, for saltpetre delivered		41,250
By the value of goods in England, unsold		6,365,000
By balance of quick stock in favour of the company at Fort St. George, made up to 30th April, 1809. . . Pagodas, 54,33,033 a. 8.	2,173,213	
Add bills of exchange drawn on England since the close of the quick stock . . L. 26,343		
Military stores, not included in the quick stock, as per memorandum of floating stock . . . 44,746		
	71,089	
		2,244,302
By balance of quick stock in favour of the Company at Bencoolen, made up to 30th April, 1809 . . Spanish Dollars, 919,229 a 5.		229,807
By balance of quick stock in favour of the company at Prince of Wales's Island, made up to 30th April, 1808 . Spanish Dollars, 762,819 a. 5.		190,705
By balance of last books in favour of the Company at St. Helena, dated 30th September, 1808 . . . . . L.	186,915	
Add bills of exchange drawn on England since the close of the books	21,689	
		208,604
By balance of quick stock in favour of the Company at China, made up to 2d March, 1809 . . . Tales, 39,19,819 a. 7. 4. 88/.		1,451,640
By balance of quick stock in favour of the Company at the Cape of Good Hope, made up to 31st August, 1809 . Rix Dollars, 84,512. a. 4. and 20 per cent. premium.		14,085
By cargoes from England, not arrived in India and China at the dates of the several quick stocks		2,530,619
By exports paid for, exclusive of bullion, 1809-10		1,196,095
By impress and war allowances, paid owners of ships not arrived in England		436,679
By the value of ships, sloops, and vessels, exclusive of those stationed abroad		79,140
By the value of the East India House and Warehouses		1,129,000
By what the Company paid for their dead stock in India		400,000
By what due from government for stores and supplies to his majesty's troops		960,000
By what owing from sundry persons returned from India, and in India, to be re-paid in England		19,372
	L.	19,938,376
Balance against		15,107,307
	L.	35,045,683

Memorandum:

In the above account, the article of dead stock is valued at L.400,000; which includes buildings and fortifications, plate, household furniture, plantations, farms, sloops, vessels, stores, and other articles of dead stock, according to lord Godolphin's award in the year 1702. Whereas the whole of the sums of money expended in buildings and fortifications, by the latest advices from the Company's several settlements, for the acquisition and maintenance of their possessions, and the nearest estimated value of other articles of dead stock, is as follows:

	Buildings and Fortifications.	Plate, Household, Furniture, Plantations, Farms, Sloops, Vessels, Stores, &c.	TOTALS.
	L.	L.	L.
At Bengal	5,494,354	1,496,114	6,990,468
Fort St. George, and subordinates	1,840,682	447,798	2,288,480
Bombay, and do.	1,125,093	352,691	1,477,784
Fort Marlbro, and do.	243,640	74,544	318,184
St. Helena	43,685	93,912	137,597
Fort Cornwallis	63,478	11,624	75,102
L.	8,810,932	2,476.683	11,287,615

No. 10.

Number and Expence of King's Troops in India, officers included.

	BENGAL.		MADRAS.		BOMBAY.		TOTAL.	
	Number.	Expence.	Number.	Expence.	Number.	Expence.	Number.	Expence.
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
1797 ...	3,019	126,315	7,948	290,356	1,174	61,524	12,141	478,695
1798 ...	2,873	164,557	6,121	247,286	1,723	73,268	10,717	485,111
1799 ...	2,870	172,926	7,875	329,121	3,069	167,634	13,814	669,681
1800 ...	3,601	197,427	6,442	269,702	3,107	156,393	13,150	623,522
1801 ...	3,748	220,246	8,248	320,678	1,565	106,463	13,561	647,387
1802 ...	3,307	178,252	8,800	346,880	2,905	169,593	15,012	694,725
1803 ...	4,031	214,980	8,737	375,705	3,703	196,600	16,471	787,285
1804 ...	4,005	223,915	8,145	376,036	2,701	152,522	14,851	752,473
1805 ...	4,625	253,102	8,063	370,344	2,282	105,323	14,970	728,769
1806 ...	5,512	280,980	7,829	342,168	3,834	176,954	17,175	800,102
1807 ...	5,037	305,587	8,586	368,885	3,672	178,969	17,295	853,441

This calculation is made upon the number in India, on 30th April in each year; the expence according to the stations at that period, either in garrison or otherwise.

The expence of horses for the cavalry, is not included; it is not practicable to distinguish this from the charges made for the Native Cavalry.

According to the foregoing statement, the extra expence of troops, beyond the number allowed by act of Parliament, (10,727) is calculated as follows:

The number in 1798 is nearly the same.

The expence is		L. 485,000
Excess in 1799 . . .	L. 184,570	
1800 . . .	138,411	
1801 . . .	162,276	
1802 . . .	209,614	
1803 . . .	302,174	
1804 . . .	267,362	
1805 . . .	243,658	
1806 . . .	314,991	
1807 . . .	368,441	
Total....................		L. 2,191,497

Exclusive of interest on the annual excess of expence.

East India House,
8th April, 1810.

(Errors excepted.)

W. Wright,
Auditor of India accounts.

No. 11.

Amount of Indian debt at several periods.

	L.
1st May 1793	7,971,668
1st May 1799	12,811,863
1st May 1802, deducting redeemed by sinking funds .	18,350,873
1st May 1806, do. do. do.	28,538,804
1st May 1807, do. do. do.	30,244,341
1st May 1808, do. do. do. . . .	32,007,819
1st May 1809, do. do. do. . . .	30,876,788

N. B. Current rupees at 2s.
Pagodas at 8s. and Bombay rupees at 2s. 3d. each.

If the total of debts stated in current rupees in No. 16, presented annually to Parliament, were converted into pounds sterling at the rate of two shillings the current rupee, the amount would appear to differ materially from this account, which arises from the mode of converting pagodas and Bombay rupees into current rupees, which has been adopted in preparing the debts as by the paper, No. 16, annually presented to parliament, by which a larger amount in current rupees is produced than by the rates used in the present account.

(Errors excepted.)

East India House, 8th April, 1810,

Wm. Wright, Auditor of India accounts.

No. 12.

Revenues and charges in India, and interest on debts, from 1793-4, *to* 1808-9, *with the estimate for* 1809-10,

	Total Revenue.	Total Charges.	Interest on debts.	Net Surplus.	Net deficiency
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
1793-4 .	8,276,770	6,066,923	526,205	1683,642	—
1794-5 .	8,026,193	6,083,507	439,410	1503,276	—
1795-6 .	7,886,093	6,474,247	420,403	971,443	—
1796-7 .	8,016,174	7,081,190	448,290	486,691	—
1797-8 .	8,059,879	7,411,401	603,507	44,971	—
1798-9 .	8,652,032	8,417,812	759,326	. . .	525,106
1799-1800	9,736,670	8,998,153	1,070,634	. . .	332,117
1800-1 .	10,485,057	10,405,500	1,221,108	. . .	1,141.551
1801-2 .	12,163,590	11,023,453	1,531,482	. . .	391,345
1802-3 .	13,464,537	11,043,108	1,577,882	843,547	—
1803-4 .	13,273,044	13,001,083	1,499,154	. . .	1,227,193
1804-5 .	14,949,397	14,548,435	1,768,440	. . .	1,367,478
1805-6 .	15,403,411	15,561,330	2,243,612	. . .	2,401,531
1806-7 .	14,513,975	15,315,411	2,452,545	. . .	3,253,981
1807-8 .	15,669,902	13,626,116	2,414,127	. . .	370,341
1808-9 .	15,525,091	13,187,735	2,468,637	. . .	131,281
1809-10 esti:	15,655,984	13.609,490	2,466,300	. . .	119,806

The charges are the amount brought to account in the year, as by budget accounts, Nos. 2, 5, and 8.

The interest includes what was paid on the sums redeemed by the sinking funds: if this interest were included from the account, the result in the last three years would be as follows:

1807-8 . .	Net deficiency	L. 130,901
1808-9 Net Surplus. . .	-	L. 138,123
1809-10 do. do. .	.	88,008

(Errors excepted.)

East India House, 8th April, 1810.

Wm Wright, Auditor of India Accounts.

The select committee appointed to enquire into the present state of the affairs of the East India Company, and to report the same, as it shall appear to them, to the house, with their observations thereupon; and also to report their proceedings, from time to time, to the house; and to whom the petition of the united company of merchants of England trading to the East Indies, was referred;—have, pursuant to the orders of the house, examined the matters to them referred: and have agreed upon the following report:

Your committee having been directed to examine the matter of a petition from the East India company, which was presented to the house on the 13th of April, have accordingly required such evidence to be produced to your committee, as might enable them to decide on the allegations contained in that petition.—The several accounts, which are hereunto annexed, have accordingly been laid before them, and from those documents, as well as from the examination of the accountant-general and the auditor of the company, as to their correctness, there seems to be no reasonable ground for doubting the accuracy of the statement contained in the petition, as to the large amount of bills drawn on the Court of Directors on account of the company's debt in India, and the heavy losses which the company have sustained in their shipping during the last two years. The sum of 711,456*l.* which appears by the account of those losses to have been the value of the homeward-bound cargoes, is explained to be the prime cost of the goods, which, of course, might have been expected to realize to the company a sum considerably larger, after deducting the freight and other charges.

The estimate of receipts and payments of the East India Company, to the 1st March, 1811, and the account of their property in England, and afloat outward, which shews a balance in their favour of 4,842,145*l.* are two of the accounts annually laid before parliament, and which have accordingly been presented to the house, and referred to your committee.

It having been stated in a former report, that a reasonable expectation might be entertained of a considerable diminution in the annual amount of bills on the Court of Directors from China, in consequence of arrangements which had been adopted for that purpose, your committee have reason to believe, that those hopes have been realized, and that the company's treasury in England is not likely to be exposed again to the contingency of such heavy demands from China.

It appears also by advices from India, that considerable progress had been made, particularly at Madras, in carrying into effect an arrangement for converting the optional loans in India (or such portion of the debt as left to the creditor the option of having it discharged either by cash in India, or by bills on the Court of Directors) into loans, the interest of which, but not the principal, was payable, if required, by such bills, on England. Your committee have not been able to obtain an accurate account of those optional loans; but of the total amount of 30,876,788*l.* of debt on the 30th April, 1809, it is supposed, that not less than 18,500,000*l.* was demandable by bill on England. It appears, however, that at the two presidencies of Madras and Bombay, a considerable sum, amounting probably to not less than 4,000,000*l.* had, previously to the 1st October, 1809, been converted into a debt payable only in India; and that a further sum of 1,261,367*l.* debt had been wholly discharged.

Your committee having considered it incumbent upon them to enquire into the grounds of the allegation in the petition, that it would be highly disadvantageous to the company at the present period to raise money by increasing their capital stock, as they are by law authorized to do; have examined the chairman, and deputy chairman, and Charles Grant, esquire, one of the directors, on that particular point. They have informed your committee, that the Court of Directors agree with them in thinking such a measure at this time, and under the present circumstances, would be highly injurious to the interest of the company. The evidence of those gentlemen will be found in the Appendix.

APPENDIX:

viz.

No. 1.—Amount of bills of exchange, drawn on the Court of Directors, unpaid on the 1st March 1810, on account of India debt and interest.

No. 2.—Estimate of the loss sustained by the company, by the capture and wreck of shipping 1807-8 and 1808-9.

No. 3.—Estimate of receipts and payments of do, from 1st March 1810 to 1st March 1811.

No. 4.—Statement of the debts and credits of the East India company in England, and afloat outward, on the 1st day of March 1810.

No. 5.—Explanation relative to drafts from China upon England, since the year 1808.

No. 6.—Copy letter from the governor-general in council at Fort St. George to the Court of Directors in the public department, on the subject of finances.

No. 7.—Amount of Indian debt at several periods.

No. 8.—Estimated amount of debts in India, on the 30th April 1809.

No. 9.— Estimated amount of loans in India, on 30th April 1809.

No. 10.—Estimated amount of debts in India, on 30th April 1809, since paid off.

No. 11.—Evidence of the chairman, deputy chairman, and one of the directors.

Appendix, No. 1.

Amount of bills of exchange, drawn on the court, unpaid on the 1st March 1810, on account of Indian debt, and interest; shewing the amount that will fall due before the 1st March, 1811, and afterwards.

Amount of bills of exchange from India, running on the company on the 1st March, 1810, for principal and interest of loans	2,292,606
Of which will fall due before the 1st March, 1811	l. 1,756,188
due after the 1st March 1811	536,488
	2,292,606
Amount of bills of exchange advised from India since the 1st March, 1810	317,052
Of which will become due previous to the 1st March, 1811	72,235
Do. after 1st March, 1811	244,787
	317,032

Memorandum—In the advices of bills of exchange received from India, the amount drawn for principal and interest is not separated.

(Errors excepted.)

Chas. Cartwright,
Accountant-General.

East India House,
21st April, 1810.

Appendix, No. 2.

An estimate of the loss sustained by the company, by the capture and wreck of shipping, 1807-8, and 1808-9.

	Cargo Homeward.	Cargo Outward.	Advances, Impress, and War contingencies.	Value of Ship.	TOTAL.
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
Walpole	3,235	- - -	8,471	- - -	11,706
Admiral Gardner	- - -	21,759	16,138	- - -	37,897
Britannia	- - -	57,091	- - -	60,729	117,820
Travers	- - -	6,568	7,990	- - -	14,558
Lord Nelson	49,026	- - -	14,442	- - -	63,468
Experiment	5,292	- - -	7,178	- - -	12,470
Glory	5,292	- - -	6,583	- - -	11,875
Calcutta	124,452	- - -	14,463	. . .	138,915
Bengal	121,262	- - -	14,339	. . .	135,601
Jane, Duchess of Gordon	86,089	- - -	14,451	. . .	100,540
Lady Jane Dundas	36,808	- - -	14,508	. . .	51,316
Europe	140,000	- - -	14,398	. . .	154,398
Streatham	140,000	- - -	14,502	. . .	154,502
Asia	- - -	28,565	14,446	. . .	43,011
L.	711,456	113,983	161,909	60,729	1,048,077

(Errors excepted.)

East India House
the 10th April, 1810.

Chas. Cartwright,
Accountant-General.

Appendix, No. 3.

Estimate of receipts and payments of the East India Company; from the 1st March, 1810, to 1st March, 1811.

	L.
Cash in the treasury 1st March, 1810 (Morning) including duty on tea	654,167
Company's goods, sold, and to be sold	5,735,351
Honourable board of ordnance, for salt petre	143,450
Private trade goods, sold before 1st March, 1810	307,000
Charges and profit on private trade	110,000

Freight on Do......	100,000
Ditto of hemp imported, and to be imported on account of government................	156,000
One year's interest, at 3*l*. per cent. per annum, of 1,207,559*l*. 15*s*. the company's share of the annuities transferred to the bank, agreeably to act of parliament.........................	36,296
	l.7,242,194
Balance deficient, 1st March, 1811.............................	2,038,948
Customs..........................	105,932
Duty on tea.........................	625,807
Freight and demurrage.	1,163,600
Goods and stores exported...	1,829,791
Bills exchange, from India and China.....................	2,548,424

Charges, general, including supra cargoes commission, interest on loans, &c......	756,600
Dividends on stock, and interest on bonds..............	875,000
Bonds advertized to be paid off..............	15,417
Pay to marine and military officers on furlough and retired from service........	170,000
Warrants passed the court unpaid	68,000
Buyers of tea, returned.........	971
Proprietors of private trade....	322,000
	l. 9,281,142

(Errors excepted.)

CHAS. CARTWRIGHT,
Accountant-general.

East India House,
16th March, 1810.

Appendix, No. 4.

A statement of the debts and credits of the East India company in England, and afloat outward, on the 1st day of March, 1810.

To bonds bearing interest	L. 4,900,000
To bonds not bearing interest	15,417
To bills of exchange unpaid from China	361,469
To ditto . . . . India	2,241,044
To customs and excise on goods sold, and customs on goods unsold . . .	753,697
To the bank, for a loan on mortgage of the annuities that may be sold . . .	700,000
To ditto . for a loan on bond	100,000
To ditto . for interest on the above loans	10,666
To freight and demurrage	336,200
To supra cargoes commission on all goods sold and unsold	134,660
To proprietors of private trade, on all goods sold . . . . : .	322,000
To almshouses at Poplar	69,544
To what owing for exports of former seasons	164,090
To ditto . . to the warehouse contingent fund	19,633
To warrants passed the court unpaid	68,000
To what owing for teas returned by the buyers, and resold	971
To interest on bonds	90,902
To dividends on stock	67,795
	L. 10,357,088
Balance in favour . .	4,842,145
	L. 15,199,233

By what due from government to the company	L. 1,207,560
By cash, its balance on 1st March, 1810	654,167
By the amount of goods sold, not paid for	580,351
By the honourable board of ordnance, for saltpetre delivered . . .	41,250
* By the value of goods in England unsold	6,365,000
* By cargoes from England, not arrived in India and China at the dates of the several quick stocks	2,530,619
By exports paid for, exclusive of bullion	1,196,095
* By impress and war allowances paid owners of ships not arrived in England	436,679

*** To the above were annexed, (No. 5.) explanation relative to drafts from China upon England since the year 1808. No. 6.) copy of a letter from the governor-general on the subject of finances. (No. 7.) amount of Indian debt at several periods. (No. 8.) estimated amount of Indian debt, 30th April, 1809, Total 30,876,788. (No. 9.) estimate of Indian loans at the last-mentioned date. (No. 10.) estimate of the amount of Indian debts paid off, since the 30th April, 1809. (No. 11.) evidence of chairman and deputy against the policy of increasing Indian stock.

By the value of ships, sloops, and vessels, exclusive of those stationed abroad	79,140
By the value of the East India house and warehouses	1,129,000
By what due from government for stores and supplies to his majesty's troops	*960,000
By what owing from sundry persons returned from India, and in India, to be repaid in England	19,372
	l.15,199,233

(Errors excepted.) Chas. Cartwright, Accountant-general.

East India House, 11th April, 1810.

Report of the select committee on the affairs of the East India company to the House of Commons.

The utmost diligence which your committee have been enabled to bestow upon a subject of such extensive detail, as an inquiry into "the present state of the affairs of the East India Company," would not have been sufficient for its full investigation within the period which has elapsed since their appointment, even if many of the most necessary documents, as to the state of the company's affairs in India, had not been received so recently as to preclude the possibility of their being examined with a degree of accuracy, care and attention, which the complicated nature, not less than the importance of the subject, indispensably requires. Your committee are still engaged in the consideration of the various matters comprehended in the general object of their inquiry, and will, from time to time submit their observations thereupon to the house: but in consequence of the petition which the company have presented to the house, and which have been referred to your committee, they have deemed it advisable, in the first instance, to advert to the allegations of that petition, including not only those which refer exclusively in the balance claimed by the company as owing to them by the public, but also such as relate to the general state of affairs, and to report upon the same, as the progress which your committee have been enabled to make in their inquiry, has, in their apprehension, justified the observations which they now offer to the consideration of the house.

Your committee, finding it stated in the petition from the company, as one of the causes from which the present embarrassment in their pecuniary concerns had arisen, that a large balance of debt remained due to them from the public, on account of various expences incurred for expeditions to the French, Dutch, and Spanish settlements in the Indian seas, and to Egypt, have proceeded, in the first instance, on the investigation of the account between the public and the company. Your committee find, that in the report made by a former committee upon this subject (Ap. No. 5), on the 26th day of June, 1805, and now referred to your committee, the several heads of charges upon which the claims preferred on behalf of the company, were founded, are arranged in the following manner, in three classes, according to the nature of the circumstances and transactions out of which they have respectively arisen. The first class composed of such heads of charge as should fall into the opinion of the committee framing that report, exclusively on the public; the second, of such as should be borne exclusively by the company; and the third, consisting of charges, to be divided equally between both parties:

First class, chargeable to the public.

"An account of expences incurred by the East India company in India and England, for the intended expedition to the French islands, and for the expedition against, and supplies to the Cape of Good Hope."

"An account of expences incurred by the East India company, for the intended expedition against Manilla."

"An account of the expences incurred by the East India company, for the purchase of vessels for his majesty's navy, repairs to king's ships, &c. &c."

"An account of the expences incurred by the East India company, by the capture of the Danish settlements in India, in 1801."

"An account of the extraordinary expences incurred by the East India Company, by the expedition to Eygypt."

* The debt from government for stores and supplies to troops, expeditions, &c. is taken at the sum stated to be due on 1st March, 1808, deducting therefrom 1,500,000l. received from government since that period; which sum was voted in consequence of the first report of the select committee on the affairs of the East India Company. As the committee in this report state their having suspended, for further examination, such parts of the pay office demands as have been objected to on the part of the company, and as a difference of opinion subsists on the adjustment of the other parts of the company's claims, the account is consequently still open for further investigation.

over and above the charge of the troops in India."

"Ceylon balance of property, December 1801, and remittances from India subsequent to that date: also the expence of the capture of the said island."

Second class, chargeable to the company.

"An account of the expences incurred by the East India company, in consequence of various captures made from the French and Dutch on the Peninsula of India, including subsistence of prisoners."

"An account of the king's troops in India, beyond the number authorized by acts of parliament."

Third class, to be equally divided.

"An account of the expence incurred by the capture and maintenance of Malacca and the Moluccas, and for the maintenance of Ceylon, deducting the profit on spices."

The said report further states the determination of that committee concerning the rates of interest to be allowed upon the several sums appearing on the different sides of the account, as follows:

"Your committee have thought it reasonable, that the company's claims so far as they arise from an expenditure, carried on in India by loans raised there, should be made up with the rate of interest paid by the company abroad for the loan of the year in which the expence was actually incurred; and that the paymaster-general's account should bear interest according to the rate paid by the public for money in Europe, in the several years in which the demands have accrued; credit is given on the other side of the account on all payments hitherto made by the public in discharge of these demands, at the same rate of Indian interests as that debited by the company."

The report then states the opinion of the said committee, that, as far as they can judge, a balance of about 2,300,000l. would be owing by the public to the company, according to the mode of stating and making up the account therein prescribed, and that the sum of 1,000,000l. might safely be voted by the house on account. But it was observed in the said report, that the accounts on which the opinion of the said committee (in regard to the amount of what might prove due to the company) had been founded, would require revision, and it was recommended, that an accountant should be nominated on the part of the treasury, and another on the part of the company, to examine and make up the account according to the principles therein specified, previous to the final balance being discharged; and it was also strongly recommended, that frequent and early adjustments of accounts should take place between the public and the company.

Your committee find, that the sum of 1,000,000l. was accordingly voted in that session of parliament, and paid to the company, and that, in conformity to the recommendation contained in the said report, accountants were named on the part of the public and the company respectively, for the purpose therein mentioned, who appear to have entered without delay upon the duties assigned to them. The discussions which took place between them on the subject of these accounts, will be found in the Appendix (No. 1).

Your committee find that, in the session of 1806, another sum of 1,000,600l. was voted and paid to the company on account; it appearing by a letter from Mr. Wittwer, the accountant named by the lords commissioners of the treasury on the part of the public, to George Harrison, esq. dated 25th day of June, 1806, (which letter is referred to your committee) that although, for reasons therein particularly detailed, no final adjustment of accounts could at that time be made between the public and the company, the ultimate balance due to the latter would be found to exceed that sum.

Your committee find, that additional claims and demands have arisen between the public and the company, subsequent to the report of 1805, above alluded to, some of which have accrued from a continuation to a latter period of accounts and heads of charge then existing, and others from different circumstances and transactions which have since occurred.

Your committee have applied, to those of the former description, the principles which they found laid down in the report of 1805. The following charges which have grown out of new matter since that report, they have agreed, after due consideration, to include in the first class, as payable by the public—

Expences incurred in India on account of the Chinese settlers at Trinidad.

Expences incurred on account of the expedition to the Cape of Good Hope, in 1805.

Supplies for the expedition against Buenos Ayres.

Your committee are also of opinion, that the charge of prisoners of war taken at sea by his majesty's ships, which does not appear to have been particularly noticed by the committee of 1805, ought to be defrayed by the public, especially as the principle on which this claim is founded, seems to be recognized and admitted in the act of 1793, chap. 52. sect. 127.

Your committee find that a new demand has also been brought forward on the part of the public against the company for victualling stores furnished for the company's service by the commissioners of victualling, or their agents.

(No. 4). Your committee find, that the

gross demand of the company on the public, drawn up in conformity to what has been stated, with interest computed to the 1st of March, 1808, amounts, according to the best judgment which your committee can now form (several of the items of such demand being stated upon estimate), to the sum of 8,461,331l. and that the counter demands on the part of the public, for advances of cash upon account (including the two sums of 1,000,000l. and 1,000,000l. mentioned in the former part of this report) for disbursements by the pay office, and for supplies furnished by the victualling office, with interest computed to the same period, amounts to 6,960,912l. leaving a balance due to the company from the public of 1,500,419l.

In the above sum of 6,960,912l. is included the sum of 3,082,754l. which is the amount of the claim of the paymaster-general on the company, including interest to the 1st of March, 1808, deducting therefrom the sum of 443,767l. hereinafter mentioned.

Your committee cannot adduce a stronger instance of the necessity of attending to the recommendation of the committee of 1805, as to the frequent adjustment of accounts between the public and the company, than the mere statement of a claim to so large an amount, and which has moreover been only brought forward at a period so recent, that it has been, and for a considerable time must be, impossible for the accountants to examine in detail, and form an opinion on the accuracy of all the charges. There is every reason to believe that the objections which have already been urged on the part of the company to the pay office demands, and which are detailed in the appendix (No. 2.) to this report, are in general well founded, especially as their validity has been strongly confirmed by a return which was laid before your committee, from the office of the adjutant general (No. 3), of the periods during which the different regiments were chargeable to the company; and it is very possible that, on further and more minute examination by the accountants, other objections will be discovered. On these considerations, your committee have thought it reasonable to suspend for further examination, such part of the pay office demand as has been specifically objected to on the part of the company, which amounts to the sum of 443,767l. In concluding this part of the subject your committee have no hesitation in suggesting the expediency of repealing the clause in the act of 1793 (cap. 52. sec 128.) which enacts that the company shall be chargeable with all the recruiting and other expences incurred in England, for regiments in India (which in practice has been found so difficult to adjust,) and substituting other provisions which might simplify the mode of stating the account, and consequently facilitate its frequent and early adjustment, and at the same time secure to the public an equitable compensation for that portion of its military expenditure.

Your committee have annexed to this report, a copy of the account between the public and the company, containing a detailed statement of the particular items of which the two sums of 8,461,331l. and 6,960,912l. are composed.

(No. 4.) Your committee cannot, in justice to the company, conclude, this part of their report, without calling the attention of the house to the remonstrances made against the mode adopted by the committee appointed in 1805 to take into consideration the account between the public and East India company, as far as relates to the expences incurred by the capture and maintenance of Malacca and the Moluccas, and the maintenance of Ceylon; a mode of decision by which claims on the part of the company, to no less an amount than 1,972,984l. have been set aside.

The arguments by which these claims were resisted and defended, and from which it is to be presumed the adjustment in question took place, will be found in the appendix (No 6.); and also a statement prepared by the court of directors connected with the same subject. (No. 7.)

Your committee, under the order of reference made to them, have not thought themselves authorized to make observations upon the principles on which the committee of 1805 arranged the claims of the company.

Your committee have, however, thought it their duty, under all the circumstances of the case, to state the amount of what the company maintain to be their just and unsatisfied demand.

Independently of the claim which the company have preferred against the public, for expences incurred in carrying into execution the orders which at different times have been transmitted to India, for expeditions against the settlements of such European powers as have been engaged in war with this country, and also to Egypt, your committee observe, that in the above-mentioned petition various circumstances (all of which are connected with that state of war in Europe, and in India) are represented as the causes which have produced the present embarrassments in the company's affairs, and the grounds on which they pray for such relief as Parliament may think fit to grant.

It will be evident from the examination of the several accounts contained in the appendix to this report, which exhibit a view of the company's pecuniary concerns in England during the last ten years, when compared with the estimate for 1808-9, that the deficiencies of the last and present year have proceeded from

causes which have been progressive in their operation, and that the state of affairs which those accounts now exhibit, is to be traced to a combination of various circumstances connected with the wars in which the company have been engaged in India, as well as with the general state of warfare in which a large portion of Europe has for a long period been involved. Your committee have selected from the annual accounts of the company's affairs at home, which have been presented to Parliament during the last ten years, a comparative statement of receipts and payments in such articles as have experienced, or admit of any considerable variation in their amount. It will appear from that account, that the present deficiency may be ascribed principally to the following causes:—

1st. To the diminished sale of the company's goods; the sum estimated to be received from such sales for the year 1808-9 being 1,394,589l. less than the average of the ten preceding years; 2,200,996l. less than the average of the first five years of that period; and 588,183l. less than the average of the last five years.

It would lead your committee much beyond the limits within which they propose to confine this report, if they were to enter upon the discussion of all the causes to which the gradual decrease in the amount of the company's sales, during the last ten years, may possibly be ascribed. It will appear, however, from the account of sales, during that period, that in the article of tea, which forms a large proportion of their whole trade, no diminution has taken place, but that it has chiefly occurred in the imports from India, and particularly in the different description of piece goods. The increased consumption of cotton stuffs manufactured in Britain, and the advantages derived to neutral nations from the expense at which the trade to India must necessarily be carried on during war, as well as the obstructions inseparable from that state of war which has existed with little intermission since the renewal of the company's charter in 1793, are the causes to which, in the opinion of your committee, the diminished sale of Indian imports may principally be attributed.

2dly. To the increased expense of freight and demurrage of the company's shipping, the estimated amount of the same for the year 1808-9, being 276,251l. more than the average of the ten preceding years; 276,712l. more than the average of the first five years of that period; and 275,790l. more than the average of the last five years.

Whether the system now pursued by the company, in the description of vessels which they have been accustomed to employ, is the most economical to them or the most beneficial to the country, or whether it is calculated to withstand the competition of foreign nations, are points on which your committee are not yet prepared to pronounce an opinion; but which they consider to be of the highest importance, as they affect not only the commercial prosperity of the company, but the permanent interest of the British empire, in the preservation and exclusive enjoyment of a valuable portion of its trade. In estimating this charge, to which the commerce of the company is exposed, from the rate of freight, it must be recollected that the means of defence, and consequent security which the size and structure of their ships afford to their valuable cargoes, and to the transport of troops and military stores, must necessarily be included in any comparison between the present, and any other system which may be suggested.

3dly. To the increased amount of bills of exchange drawn on the company in England, from India and China; the estimated amount of which, for the year 1808-9, being 725,408l. more than the average of the ten preceding years; 521,970l. more than the average of the first five years of that period; and nine hundred and twenty-eight thousand eight hundred and forty-five pounds more than the average of the last five years.

It is unquestionably to those heavy drafts from India and China on the company's treasury at home, that the largest portion of the deficiency in their funds, during the last and present year, must be ascribed. Your committee have been informed, that in consequence of arrangements which the Court of Directors have adopted, and of orders which they have transmitted to China, the amount of bills from thence is not likely to increase, and that in all probability it will fall considerably below the average of former years. Your committee have not been enabled to form any such expectation with regard to the amount of bills from India. Any interruption in the tranquillity of the company's territories would create increased demands on their treasury at home, which can only be effectually avoided by a surplus revenue in India. The attainment of that object, either by a reduction of expenditure, or by additional revenue, or by the operation of both those causes, is indispensable to the maintenance on the company's credit and power in India; and to this important subject your committee will, without delay, direct its most serious attention.

Your committee have confined themselves in this report to a statement of the principal causes which have produced the present deficiency. There are others, however, of inferior amount, which have contributed to augment it. The charge of payments to military and marine officers retired from the service, has been gra-

dually increasing for several years, and amounts now to a sum much beyond the calculation which was formed of it when the system was first established.

The addition to the company's bonded debt has also contributed to swell the deficit, by the increased charge for interest.

With the view of enquiring into the practicability of retrenchment in expenditure, your committee have called for the detail of the articles comprehended under the head of "charges general," which in the aggregate, amounts annually to a very considerable sum.

As far as your committee have yet investigated this account, they have found no reason to believe that it is capable of any material reduction, but they propose to go into a more detailed examination of the particular articles of which it consists. And entertaining this intention, they forbear, at present, laying before the House any thing more than an abstract of the account, and of its principal subdivisions for the last three years, as it has been prepared by the Court of Directors.

The company having stated in their petition, that they did "not presume to request the interposition of the House to aid them in their present emergency, without at the same time shewing their unquestionable ability to discharge all their present debts in England, and to repay whatever the House may in its wisdom think fit to assist them with;" and having submitted to the House a statement in that petition, by which it appeared that a considerable balance would remain to them after making provision for the payment of all their debts in England, but exclusive of their Indian debt; your committee felt it their duty carefully to investigate that part of the subject, and they have no difficulty in stating an opinion, that there will remain assets in this country to an amount considerably beyond what the present exigency of the company's affairs appears to demand, in security for any advance to that extent which Parliament may think fit to grant.

Your Committee have prepared an account of the probable assets of the company on the 1st of March, 1809, in which the amount of debt due to them by the public, as the balance of their account, is taken only at 1,500,419l. instead of 2,460,000l. which the company claims, and in which nothing is allowed for their property afloat, and which will arrive in England subsequently to that period, though a large portion of the charge affecting that property will be incurred and paid during the current year. Estimating the amount in that most unfavourable mode, there will remain a balance of 2,819,587l. in favour of the company. If credit however is given for the value of that property, and the sum due by the public is stated at the amount claimed by the company, the estimated balance in their favour will be 9,050,587l.

The value of the East India House and Warehouses has been stated by the company's surveyor, whose evidence on that subject is inserted in the appendix.

It will be apparent to the House, from the examination of those accounts, that the most accurate estimate which can be formed of such articles of receipt and expenditure as are comprehended in them, must be liable to uncertainty; but your committee have no reason to doubt, that every practicable degree of caution has been used in preparing them.

Your committee have already stated, that they are proceeding upon the detailed investigation of the various matters comprehended in the general object of their inquiry, and which embrace the whole of the financial and commercial, as well as political concerns of the company. An examination into the civil and military establishments in India, will form a material branch of that inquiry; and your committee are already strongly impressed with the necessity of carrying into effect reductions in the amount of those establishments to a very considerable extent. Your committee are happy to add, that this important subject has also engaged the serious attention of the Court of Directors, and of their governments abroad.

SECOND REPORT from the select Committee on the affairs of the East India Company.

Your committee propose, in this report, to submit to the consideration of the House, a detailed statement of the ordinary revenues and charges of the East India company's territorial possessions, and a comparison of the amount of those revenues and charges at the last renewal of the company's charter in 1793, with their present amount, according to the latest advices which have been received from India.

On the occasion of renewing the charter in 1793, every exertion was employed for the discovery of the extent of the company's resources, both political and commercial, and calculations were made with every practicable attention to accuracy, grounded upon the actual experience of preceding years, as it regarded both receipt and expenditure.

The propriety of taking this as the period for the commencement of an investigation, is still further established by the consideration that the arrangement then made was upon the most extensive scale, embracing the entire state of the concern both abroad and at home, and a line was drawn for the distribution of the expenditure in India, whether for the expences of government, or the interest upon the debts. A principle was also established for the application of the surplus produce of the revenues, which,

on the calculations above adverted to, was fairly expected to arise.

It was likewise prescribed that the Court of Directors of the East India company, should annually lay before parliament distinct accounts of the revenues and of the disbursements in India, with the amount of the sales of goods and stores received from Europe, the state of their debts and assets, together with an account of the proceeds of the home treasury, and of the debts and assets in England.

The directions of the act before referred to have been obeyed on the part of the Court of Directors as far as practicable. The home accounts have been uniformly presented at the prescribed period. The loss and capture of some of the ships from Bengal, containing the most material documents from which the statements respecting the concern in India are prepared, has materially interfered with the regularity which would likewise have been observed as to their presentation in due time; those of the year 1807-8, which should have been upon the table of the house in the last session, having been omitted, with the exception of a short abstract of the revenues and charges of India for that year, and the account of the debts. During the present session, the whole mass of the accounts for the year 1807-8, properly belonging to the last year, has been presented to the house, and those of the year 1808-9, within the statutory period; but, owing to the loss of the documents above adverted to, and from the non-receipt of several statements from Bengal, neither the actual accounts of the revenues and charges of that presidency for the years 1807-8, and 1808-9, nor the estimate of 1809-10, could be completely shewn in detail under the various heads, according to the plan in usual practice.

Your committee do not intend to enter upon any consideration of the policy or the prudence of the financial arrangements of the year 1793, but merely to state them in their original form and shape as to figures; nor is it intended, in the examination of the progress of their operation from year to year, to make any remarks upon the various changes which will be discovered, further than such as shall be found necessary to furnish explanations of the causes of those changes.

The nature or description of the accounts is such as to afford, in each year, a view of the amount of the revenues derived from the possessions in India, and of every charge incurred in the government and defence of them, with the interest payable upon the debts. They likewise shew the amount of those debts, and of the effective property of the East India company, commonly termed the quick stock.

The calculations on which the financial arrangements were made in the year 1793, at the commencement of the present charter of the company, have been adverted to. It is presumed to be material to examine, at this time, how far those calculations, though governed by the actual experience of past years, and regulated by a due attention to existing circumstances at the time they were made, have been justified in the result; and as that examination could not be better pursued than by combinations, as far as practicable in one view, of the resourses and of the charges as then estimated, and as by the actual accounts of succeeding years, statements have been drawn up accordingly which are hereunto annexed.

These statements are prepared upon two principles, viz. the one, marked No. 2, shews the revenues and charges of India collectively, with the general result as estimated in the year 1793, and according to the actual accounts of each successive year, from 1792-3 to 1808-9 inclusive, with the estimate of the year 1809-10. The supplementary statements, marked Nos. 3, 4, 5, shew the revenues and charges of the three presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay respectively. The columns of these several statements are in conformity with the heads or items of revenue and charge in the accounts laid before parliament. The sums are taken from those accounts, and are converted into sterling money at the rates of exchange in usual practice, viz. at 2s. the current rupee, 8s. the pagoda, and 2s. 3d. the Bombay rupee.

By this principle or mode of statement, an opportunity is afforded of discovering the financial situation of each of the presidencies, as to its proper income and expenditure, during the periods under consideration.

As that mode of statement, though useful in one point of view, does not exactly answer the purpose which is essential to the plan on which it is proposed to conduct the present examination, from not shewing at one view the company's ancient revenues, distinguished from the revenues acquired by cession or conquest, nor the military charges of India, it has been thought proper to prepare statements upon another principle, by which these ends might be obtained. These statements are added to the appendix. The general statement, marked No. 6, shews the revenues and charges thus distinguished, and the supplementary statements, marked A, B, C, shew the revenues and charges under the various heads which will be hereafter stated.

It is to be remarked, that the periods of statement, and the final general result on both principles, are, of course, precisely the same; and the component parts of the statements taken from the same accounts, with only this difference, that in the statement marked No. 6, with its supplements, adjustments have been made of the several heads of revenue and charge, in order to accommodate them to the principle

on which it is proposed to proceed on the examination of them respectively. The results in both statements are exclusive of the commercial charges not added to the invoices.

It is to be regretted that the two last years, 1807-8 and 1808-9, and the estimate 1809-10, are necessarily incomplete from the want of the Bengal accounts, which has already been adverted to, as, from this circumstance, the separation of the revenues and charges of the conquered districts cannot be made as in former years; but it does not affect the general result.

These statements, it will be observed, apply solely to the revenues and charges. The property or effects, and the debts of the company in India, are likewise objects of consideration. Statements of them respectively from 1792 to 1809, have therefore been prepared.

It is first proposed to examine the accounts of the revenues and charges, as shewn in the statement marked No. 6, by comparing the general result estimated in the year 1793, with that shewn by the actual accounts of the year 1808-9, and the detail of the items with such of the later periods of the statement as may be most suitable to the affording the requisite explanations of the grounds of the difference which will be found between the two periods. In most instances the comparison will be made with the actual accounts of 1808-9. In those instances where this is not found practicable, the year 1806-7, being complete, will be taken as the period of comparison.

The surplus revenue was estimated in the year 1793 to amount to	*l.* 1,163,577
According to the actual accounts of the year 1808-9, there was a surplus charge of	26,042
By which a less favourable result is exhibited in the sum of	*l.* 1,189,619

The difference will be found to have been entirely occasioned by the increase of charge and of interest on the debts, as the state of the revenues has improved in a most material degree; but it is proposed to enter upon a detailed examination of the whole, both revenue and charge, as shewn in the statement in which the distinction is made between the revenues possessed exclusively by the company under their anciently-established rights, and those acquired under subsidy, or by cession or conquest.

REVENUES.

The first points for consideration are the revenues of the company's ancient possessions, and the revenues of those obtained by cession or conquest. The want of the Bengal accounts, as before adverted to, renders it necessary to make the present comparison in these instances with the year 1806-7.

The revenues of the ancient possessions were estimated in 1793 at	5,523,625
In the year 1806-7 their amount was	7,794,643
being an increase of	*l.* 2,271,018
The revenues from subsidies, and from the collections of the ceded countries, were estimated in 1793 at	1,414,200
This head including the revenues of those ceded and conquered since that period, amounted in the year, 1806-7 to	4,245,729
being an increase of	*l.* 2,831,529
and the gross revenue, including both heads, estimated in 1793 at	6,963,625
amounted in 1806-7	14,535,739
being more by	*l.* 7,572,114

The want of the detail of the Bengal accounts has not been found to effect the general result of the year 1808-9. The gross revenues of that year being shewn, the comparison can be made in like manner with that of the result; and it will appear that, deducting the amount estimated in the year, 1793, viz. . . 6,963,625 from the actual gross revenues in the year 1808-9, which amounted to . . . . . 15,525,055 an increase beyond the estimate is found amounting to the sum of . . . . *l.* 8,561,430

being 989,316*l.* more than the gross revenues of the year 1806-7, before stated. Of this improvement 656,000*l.* is in the Bengal revenues, viz. 372,000*l.* in the salt sales, 114,000*l.* in the opium sales; but it cannot be accurately ascertained under what heads the remainder was produced. The revenues of the Madras presidency were more by 365,000*l.* principally by the collections of the land revenue having been realized in a large amount, as the countries had recovered the effects of a drought which affected those of the year 1806-7. The revenues of Bombay were less by 32,000*l.* principally in the customs and duties.

The detail of the revenues of the company's possessions is next to be considered. For this purpose it is necessary to refer to the supplementary statement, marked A. which shews in detail the several items or heads of revenue of this description, collected under the three presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay.

BENGAL REVENUES.

The revenues of the presidency of Bengal, estimated in 1793 to produce	4,503,000
amounted in the year 1806-7 to	6,304,738
being an increase of.......... *l.*	1,801,738

It is satisfactory to observe that the caution in 1793, in estimating the revenues, is fully established by the actual accounts of the first year, and by the progressive improvements afterwards. The detail of them is as follows:

Mint Duties,

estimated in 1793 at.......... *l.*	2,800
amounted in the year 1806-7 to..	19,136
being an increase of............*l.*	16,336

The small revenue under this head does not particularly require remark. It is from its nature a fluctuating resource, being produced for the most part by duties on coinage for individuals, and gains on the coinage for the account of government. Various alterations have taken place in the mint and assay offices, which will be noticed under the charges: and, notwithstanding the increased receipt exhibited throughout the period, and the increase now shewn, the charges have almost uniformly exceeded the profits. The accounts for the years 1807-8 and 1808-9 include the mints of Furruckabad and Benares, which cannot be separated as in former years.

Post Office Collections.

estimated in 1793 at........	*l.* 10,200
amounted in the year 1808-9 to	34,800
being an increase of..........	*l.* 24,600

The estimate in 1793 was calculated on the average of five years actual collections. The increase exhibited on this head may partly be imputed to the increase of correspondence, consequent upon various circumstances; but it is principally to be ascribed to regulations of the department in 1798 and 1801, increasing the rates of postage. It is satisfactory to observe, the receipts in the year 1808-9 more than cover the charges, which was not the case in the year 1793.

BENARES REVENUE

was estimated in 1793 at.........	*L.* 430,000
In the years 1807-8 and 1808-9 it is blended with the Bengal land revenues. It is therefore necessary to take the year 1806-7 as the period of comparison. In that year this head of revenue amounted to....	537,379
being an increase of	*L.* 107,379

The estimate of 1793 is stated to have been calculated on the actual jumma or rent roll of the province, which was framed according to settlement made in the year 1781. The management of the revenues has undergone several changes since that period; and, under the orders of the government, dated 11th February, 1791, the quartennial and decennial settlements, formed in 1789-90, were confirmed; but the general arrangements in the year 1793 for permanently settling the rents of the Bengal provinces, and establishing a new judicial system, which will be hereafter noticed, were not carried into effect in the province of Benares till the year 1795, when, in consequence of a special agreement with the Rajah on the 27th Oct. 1794, regulations were passed on the 27th March, 1795, under which the revenue assessment was permanently fixed; and the system in practice in Bengal, both as to collection of revenue and administration of justice, was established in Benares, with such modifications as were found necessary.

The apparent increase is to be imputed principally to the circumstance of the whole of the receipts being brought into the collector's treasury under the present system, as will be more particularly explained in the observations upon the charges. A considerable increase will likewise appear in the amount of the charges. It will, however, be found that an increase of net-revenue under this head is derived by the new arrangement. A further alteration has been made in the administration of the province, by placing it under the management of local commissioners, and by the abolition of the tehfildarry system of collection, as will be more particularly noticed during the examination of the charges.

LAND REVENUES

were estimated in 1793 at... .. *L.*	3,025,000
For the reasons stated under the preceding head, the comparison in this instance must likewise be made with the actual produce of the year 1806-7, which amounted to.......	3,296,684
being an increase of... .... *L.*	271,684

It is to be remarked, that under every head of revenue the estimate of the year 1793 was framed with great caution, taking in general the actual experience of preceding years as the basis of the calculation. Under this head, however, more particular caution was observed, and the sum estimated by the Bengal government for the year 1791-2, was taken as the amount expected to be derived in future. This sum fell short of the average of the five past years by *L.* 57,000. The punctual realization and improved produce of this truly important resource is highly creditable to

the branch of the government under which it was administered. The estimate formed in 1793 has been exceeded in each year, notwithstanding the interruptions which have occasionally been experienced from the vicissitudes of seasons; in some years a superabundance of rain, in others drought has occurred, either of which is unfavourable to the country, and of course to the realization of the land rents. The wealth and prosperity of the districts may be assumed from the inspection of this column of the statement, particularly from the year 1799, 1800. This position is further established by the reflection, that the collections have been uniformly made under the operation of the laws and regulations of the revenue system, without the necessity of military interference, as sometimes practised in other parts of India.

The origin of this system, which, in its operation, has in these provinces proved to be beneficial both to the interests of the sovereign and the subject, may be traced in a letter from the Court of Directors to the supreme government of Bengal, dated 12th April, 1786, also in the rules passed on the 18th September and 25th November, 1789, and the 10th February, 1790, under which a decennial settlement was made of the revenue to be paid for the lands in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and in the alterations passed on the 23d November, 1791. This settlement commenced with the year 1790-1. In the year 1793 the whole of the revenue code was re-enacted with modifications and amendments, and regulations were passed accordingly, when the judicial, was separated from the revenue administration, and the settlement, originally made for ten years, was declared to be permanent and unalterable for ever, subject to the approbation of the Court of Directors, which approbation was given.

It may not be necessary in this place to enter upon the consideration of any further modifications of the system by subsequent regulations, as they do not appear to have been of a description to affect the basis of the arrangement as to the amount of the jumma perpetually fixed, but merely to give greater security for the punctual realization of that amount, and, of course, to prevent the accumulation of balances; regulation 7, passed the 29th August, 1799, was of this description.

Upon a general calculation, the amount of revenue, expected under the decennial or permanent settlement was 260 lacs of sicca rupees, or *L.* 3,106,000. The annual collections exceeding that sum, are principally to be attributed to the increased amount of Syer and Abkarry duties, to the rents of lands not included in the jumma, and to other extraordinary revenues: in some instances to progressive rents, to increased rents on lands not originally settled, or to resumptions upon the principles of the regulations.

It is very satisfactory to observe that the regulation 7, 1799, above adverted to, has accomplished the purpose of its enactment. A letter from the revenue department at Bengal, dated 7th April, 1809, gives the following abstract of arrears or balances of revenue at the close of the annual accounts of each year.

1798-9	- -	*L.* 124,617
1799, 1800	- -	96,497
1800 1	- -	64,922
1801-2	- -	47,784
1802-3	- -	35,009
1803-4	- -	33,916
1804-5	- -	39,209
1805-6	- -	20,848
1806-7	- -	14,575

and it is remarked, that the balance of 1806-7 is less than one-half per cent. on the whole jumma.

JUDICIAL.

This head of revenue is composed of the fees and fines levied in the several Native courts of justice, under regulations which were passed in the year 1793, on the introduction of the judicial system, which will hereafter be more particularly noticed; also of the assessments for defraying the expence of the police establishments under that system, together with the fines and licences received by the justices of the peace at Calcutta on the sale and manufacture of spirituous liquors; likewise the fees on the suits in the court of requests at Calcutta.

As this head of revenue originated for the most part with the new system of administration of justice, no estimate could be made of it in the year 1793. The first year in which any receipt is stated, is 1793-4, when it amounted to ·· *l.* 27,715.

The year 1806-7 is the last in which the accounts of the ancient possessions are kept distinct from the other districts. The amount realized in that year will therefore be compared with the above. It was ······················	92,549
which is an increase of ····	*l.* 64,834.

The receipt of the year 1793-4 was principally composed of the amount realized under regulation 23, of 1793, for levying a tax on the principal cities for defraying the expence of the police establishments, created under regulation 22 of the same year; a small part of the receipt consisted of fines on unlicensed retailers of spirituous liquors, and fines, &c. in the native courts. Considerable variations will be observed in the different years of this column of the statement. They are to be attributed to the alterations which have been made from time to time in the several

branches from which the resource is derived. The great increase in the years 1795-6 and 1796-7 is from the institution of fees in the native courts, under regulation 38 of 1795, and from the greater productiveness of the police assessments.

In the year 1797 the regulation 23, 1793, respecting the police tax notwithstanding its improvement in produce, was rescinded, and the tax abolished, as difficulties had arisen with regard to the mode of assessment; and for that purpose the regulation, 6, was passed on the 10th April. By this regulation new fees on suits in the courts were instituted, in lieu of those established under the regulation 38, 1795, and a stamp duty upon law, and other papers and documents was likewise, established. The receipt on the stamp duty will be noticed under its proper head. The receipt from the year 1797-8 to 1801-2 will accordingly appear much lower than in the two preceding years. In the year 1802-3 an increase again appears, and from that period to 1806-7 an improvement in the produce of this head continues to be shewn. This improvement appears to have been produced by the receipt on licences from the justices of the peace at Calcutta for the sale of spirituous liquors, and by a duty on spirits manufactured in the distilleries according to the European manner, levied under regulation 2, 1802. The court of requests at Calcutta being established on a new principle, under proclamation dated 13th March, 1802, by which fees on suits in that court were instituted, has likewise contributed to the improvement.

CUSTOMS.

The collections were estimated in 1793, to produce . . .	*l.* 60,000
The head of customs, in the years 1807-8 and 1808-9 includes the whole of the collections at the several custom-houses, both in Bengal and Benares, and the upper provinces; it is therefore necessary to make the comparison with the amount realized in the year 1806-7, which was . .	324,831
being an increase of	*l.* 264,831

The amount estimated in the year 1793, was governed by the actual collections of 1790-1, and the Bengal estimate of 1791-2. The customs are estimated, in 1793, at a very small amount compared with the years antecedent to the year 1788-9. This is to be ascribed to the abolition of the government customs on the 20th June, 1788, in consequence of orders from the secret committee, dated 3d November, 1787, throughout the interior of the country; and to the existence of custom-houses at only two stations, Calcutta and Manjee, at which places certain duties were collected on imports and exports.

This branch of the resources was under the direction of the revenue department till the year 1793, when it was transferred to the commercial department. Regulation 42, passed the 1st May, in that year, established the principle of collection and the rate of the customs to be collected on imports and exports at the two then-existing custom-houses at Calcutta and Manjee.

On the 22d May, 1795 regulation 39 was passed, under which material alterations were made of the part of regulation 42, of 1793, in so far as it applied to the customs and town duties at Calcutta, abolishing them and reviving the government customs, which had been discontinued on the 20th June, 1788, making also several alterations and new provisions for redress in case of grievances under the operation of the custom laws.

In the year 1797, by regulation 1, a new duty of one per cent. on all imports and exports at the town of Calcutta was instituted, for the express purpose of defraying the expence of an armanent for the protection of the Bengal river. In 1800 regulation 11 was passed, which superseded that of 1797, and established the additional duty of 1 per cent. upon other principles. In 1801, by regulation 5, dated 14th May, the Calcutta town duties, abolished by regulation 39 of 1795, were re-established; and by regulations 10 and 11, 6th August, some other import duties were imposed, and the government customs on inland imports and exports, abolished in 1788, were revived at the principal cities, and the custom-house of Manjee withdrawn. In 1802 regulations 1, 5, and 7 were passed for the alteration of rates, and establishing modes for the better collection of the customs. In 1806, regulation 19, passed 16th October, modified the rules under former regulations respecting spirits.

The extent of the collection must of course be governed by the extent of the trade which is naturally fluctuating. The increase of the amount of the customs exhibited in the column of the statement is to be attributed generally to the additional duties established under the several regulations, and the great increase on the comparison now made is to be attributed to that circumstance.

SALT SALES

estimated in 1793 to produce	*l.* 725,000
amounted in the year 1808-9 to	1,815,822
being an increase of	*l.* 1,090,822

The average produce of this article, in the five years 1786-7 to 1790-1 would have justified a more sanguine estimate in 1793, but it was thought proper to state the future expectation on the principle

assumed by the Bengal government, as the prospect of the year 1791-2, which was 262,000*l.* below that average.

The value and importance of the exclusive privilege with respect to this article, which from time immemorial had been reserved by the ruling power of the country, have not ceased to occupy the attention of successive governments from the time of the possession of the dewanny, although the advantages resulting from it were not assumed to any considerable amount till the year 1781-2.

A new system of management had been adopted in 1780, when it was placed under a comptroller and assistants, which system continued in operation till the year 1793. The most material alteration in the interim was the substitution of public auction instead of private contract, for the disposal of the salt for the year 1806-7. The benefit derived by this measure, during the six years from 1806-7, when its operation commenced, to 1791-2, amounted, on an average, to 300,000*l.* annually.

In the year 1793 the salt office was abolished, and the entire direction of the concerns of it were transferred from the revenue to the commercial department, under which it continues at this time. The advantages resulting from this arrangement are confirmed by the improved produce of the resource, as exhibited in the statement. The sale in the year 1792-3, the year immediately preceding the transfer, exceeded the estimate of 1793, and was also more than the average of the five preceding years by 67,000*l.* It will be observed that in some few years the sales fell short of the general produce during the early and latter periods in the account. The defalcation in these instances is to be imputed to various circumstances; in some cases to the quantity sold, and to the price, and in others to the increase of illicit trade. The regulations which have been passed for the security of this revenue, with the laudable attention of the salt agents in carrying them into effect, have, however, opposed very salutary checks to the latter circumstance, which, with the care of the board of trade to arrange the provision to meet the demand, have been the means of carrying the amount of the sales to the extent shewn in the latter years.

It should likewise have been remarked, that an early measure of the board of trade was to meliorate the situation of the Molunghees, or salt makers, by doing away the arbitrary system of compulsion under which they were oppressed, and by making their labour voluntary, at the same time increasing the amount of their gain.

The low calculation of the estimate of the salt sales has been adverted to; this, of course, materially enhances the amount of the difference on the comparison with the present produce. It might, perhaps, be considered as a more correct criterion of the improvement of this important and valuable resource, if the comparison were made between the sales of the year 1793-4, the first year of the transfer of the salt department to the present system of management under the board of trade, with the year 1808-9. In this view the improvement will appear to be 522,365l., and is to be attributed to the sale of a larger quantity of salt at an increased price.

The charges attending the manufacture, will be noticed under the proper head.

Opium Sales,

Estimated in 1793 to produce . . .	250,000l.
Amounted in the year 1808-9 to	594,978
Being an increase of	344,978l.

The produce of this article, as estimated in the year 1793, exceeds the average of the five preceding years by 10,000l. The produce estimated by the Bengal government for the year 1791-2 amounted to 268,000l. The expectation, as stated above, may therefore be considered a fair medium between the average, and the Bengal estimate.

The monopoly in the trade of opium, or the cultivation of the poppy, may be traced at least as far back as the commencement of the British influence in Bengal. The advantages resulting from it were for several years merely considered as a part of the emoluments of certain offices under the government. In the year 1773 it was taken out of their hands, and the profit of the trade assumed for the benefit of the government. The provision of the article was for many years let out upon contract. The opium concern continued under the direction of the board of revenue till the beginning of the year 1793, when it was transferred to the board of trade, and the regulation 32, was passed on the 1st May respecting the terms of the contract for the provision of opium in Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, which was extended for four years from 1st September, 1793, to 1st August, 1797; also respecting measures for the protection of the cultivators of the poppy and for preventing illicit trade in the article. On the 27th March, 1795, the regulation 32 was passed respecting the contract for the provision of opium in the province of Benares for four years, as above, enacting the provisions of it into a regulation. On the expiration of the contracts in 1797 the cultivation of opium was restricted to Bahar and Benares, and discontinued in Bengal; the mode of provision by agency was resorted to, and still continues in practice. On the 11th July, 1799, the regulation 6 was passed, prescribing "rules for the guidance of all persons concerned in the provision of opium on the part of government, and for preventing the illicit cultivation of the poppy, and illicit im-

portation of or traffic in opium." Under this regulation, which was further modified in 1807, the cultivation of the poppy, except on acount of government, is expressly prohibited, but it is left entirely at the option of the ryot, or cultivator, to enter into engagements on account of government at a settled price, or to decline it altogether.

The opium trade is liable to be affected by many contingencies, not only from adverse seasons, but by the state of the markets to the eastward. The superior advantages of the agency system appear from the accounts, and the measures resorted to for securing the provision of the drug pure and unadulterated have proved of essential service. Of late years the prices have been carried to a great amount; this resource must, nevertheless, be considered as fluctuating in its nature, as the inspection of the column of the statement demonstrates: the difference between 1807-8 and 1808-9 being no less than 206,489l. from the provision of a smaller quantity, and from the sale at a much lower price in the latter year.

The transfer of the management of this article from the revenue to the commercial department in the year 1793, has been adverted to, also the change in 1797 of the mode of provision by contract to that of agency. As the sales of the year 1798-9 may be considered the first, under the operation of the new plan, it may not be improper to compare their produce in that year with that in 1808-9. On this view the improvement is 384,674l. and is almost entirely to be ascribed to increase in price.

Stamp Duties.

The institution of this tax did not take place till the year 1797-8. It was advised in the Bengal revenue letter dated 31st August, 1797, as one of the modes of reimbursement for the abolition of the police tax, which has already been adverted to, and the principle of it is to be found in regulations 6 and 10, 1797. Measures have been subsequently taken for the improvement of the resource under this head, and regulations have been passed to carry them into effect, and it is to these measures that the gradual increase shewn in the statement is to be ascribed. The charges will be noticed in their proper place.

Madras Revenues.

The revenues of the ancient possessions under the Madras government come next under review.

In the year 1793 they were estimated to produce	880,000l.
In the year 1808-9, they amounted to	1,291,698
Being an increase of	411,698l.

The realization of the revenues of this presidency, from the situation and circumstances of the districts under its administration, has ever been exposed to greater interruption, and to more contigencies, than those under the presidency of Bengal. The improvement of them in an increased ratio, as exhibited in the statement marked A, is therefore the more satisfactory.

In the examination of the several items in detail, your committee will first advert to the Post-Office collections. The estimate in 1793 did not particularly specify them. They were estimated by the Madras government to produce, in the year 1791-2, 8,600; but for the present purpose it is proposed to take the actual collections in the year 1792-3, as stated in the account under examination, for comparison with the present estimate.

Their amount in that year was ..	11,449
And in the year 1808-9	16,806
Being an increase of	l. 5,357

The increase on this head does not require much farther remark, than that the extension of the territories under the administration of the Madras presidency having added to the numbers both of civil and military servants, the correspondence has of course been greater. The post-office establishment underwent a very particular revision by a committee in 1799, and the rates of postage were fixed upon such a scale as was thought equitable. Other regulations have since been made; but, notwithstanding the increased receipt now exhibited, it will be found, that, from the necessary increase of the charges, which will be noticed hereafter, the result of the post office revenues in 1808-9 is more unfavourable than in 1792-3 by 6,000l.

Sea and Land Customs.

The estimate in the year 1793 of the revenues of this presidency was formed upon a more general principle, not so particularly distinguishing the several items as was done with respect to those of the presidency of Bengal. This is no impeachment of the accuracy of the calculations as to aggregate produce, although it occasions some difficulty in the comparison of the detail. It is therefore thought proper, as with the post office revenues, to take the actual collections of the year 1792-3 for comparison upon the present occasion.

They amounted in that year to	l. 22,300
and in the year 1808-9, to -	152,938
being an increase of - - -	l. 130,638

It has been already remarked that the produce of the customs must depend upon the extent of the trade. The amount collected annually must of course be fluctuating. The gradual increase from the year 1801-2 is principally to be imputed

to modifications and amendments of the custom-house laws, and to the levy of additional rates, under regulations for the purpose. In the early periods of the account the general rate of duty was 2½ per cent. on the several articles of trade. In the year 1801, an addition of 1 per cent. was ordered for defraying the expence of the armament for the protection of the trade, and an amended code of regulations was passed in the year 1802, which underwent further modifications in 1803. An additional duty upon beetle and tobacco imported at Madras was laid in 1804, being for defraying the expence of the corps of fencibles in the town of Madras. This duty is temporary, and to cease six months after the arrival of the intelligence of peace with the European powers. On the 9th September, 1808 regulations were passed for levying a duty upon all species of grain imported by sea at Madras, for transferring to the board of trade the superintendance over the officers employed in the collection of the customs at the sea ports, and for amending the regulations of the year 1803.

To the favourable operation of these several measures is to be imputed the improvement now exhibited in the produce of this head of revenue, which it must be recollected is exclusive of customs in the ceded and conquered districts.

LAND REVENUES,

estimated in 1793 at - - - -	*l.* 800,000
amounted in the year 1808-9 to	1,057,628
being an increase of - - - -	*l.* 257,628

The average collections of these revenues, on the five years 1790-1, amounted to 700,000*l.* In the estimate received from Madras for the year 1791-2, the expectations under this head were stated at 960,000*l.* The average above shewn was considered too low a calculation of the future expectation, as the collections in some of the years on which it was formed were materially affected by the irruptions of the enemy in the districts during the war, also by an excessive drought in the last year. The estimate 1791-2, above adverted to, was apprehended to be too sanguine; it was therefore thought most proper to calculate the future receipt at about the medium between the average and the estimate. The prudence of so doing has been proved by the average of the first six years in the statement, amounting to 830,000*l.* The unfavourable or rather uncertain situation of these districts as to the realization of their revenues, compared with those under the Bengal government, has been already noticed. It had long been considered as very desirable to place the whole revenue administration upon a better system, by which a prospect might be entertained of the removal of the causes which had often led to disappointments in the collections, to the accumulation of balances in arrear, and too frequently to the necessity of resort to the military authority for the purpose of realizing the ordinary land revenue.

In the year 1798, instructions were issued by the supreme government to the governor and council of Madras, to report their sentiments as to the introduction of the system of revenue, and administration of justice as practised in Bengal into the districts under their administration. The board of revenue, to whom this subject was referred, made a very voluminous and comprehensive report upon it, dated the 2d September, 1799, which was forwarded to the supreme government, and, as they approved the general principle recommended by the revenue board of Madras, the system was directed to be carried into effect. These directions were conveyed in a dispatch of the government of Bengal of the 31st December, 1799, and a letter from the governor-general to the governor of Madras the 8th January, 1800. Measures were taken accordingly. The collectors were ordered to report upon the state of the districts under their management respectively, and to furnish such information as might be necessary to the establishment of a perpetual assessment of the lands.

From the state of the districts it was not practicable to extend the system over the whole of them at once, as in the Bengal provinces, but the directions were carried into effect as far as local circumstances would admit, and regulations for the future administration of the revenues were enacted and published in the year 1802, upon the same principles as at Bengal. The progress made in these arrangements is as follows:

Guntoor - - - - - -	1801
Jaghire - - - - - -	1802
Vizagapatam - 1st division	1802
do - - 2d & 3d do. -	1803
Masulipatam - - - - -	1803
Ganjam - - - - - -	1804
Travendaporam and Jaghire villages near Cuddalore	1807

If the advantages of the system may be determined by the regularity of the collections of the revenues, they will be demonstrated by the apparently steady and regular amount realized from the year 1800-1. Every exertion has been made by the Madras government to ensure the productiveness of this important branch of the resources. The increase now shewn is to be ascribed to those exertions, and also to the assumption of the exclusive privilege of the manufacture and sale of salt, a right to which was reserved to government under a regulation in 1802. Regulation 1 upon this occasion was enacted on the 13th September, 1805, and, in

1807, a further regulation was passed, in which the modes of managing this concern were prescribed.

Farms and Licences.

According to the actual accounts of 1792-3 the collection was - - - -	l. 48,000
In 1808-9 it amounted to -	61,599
being an increase of - -	l. 13,599

This resource is produced by a consideration paid by individuals for the exclusive privilege of trading in certain articles for interior consumption, as beetle, tobacco, &c. The increase is to be attributed generally to the care of enforcing the regulations respecting them, and in some degree to the extension of them as in the sale of spirits.

The revenues of the Dutch settlements being merely temporary do not require remark, and particularly as an adjustment of them has been made in the account between the public and the East India company, giving credit for the whole, except the small receipt from the fishery at Tutacorin, in diminution of the claim brought against the former for the charges of the capture and maintenance of Ceylon and the eastern islands.

It is to be remarked that the revenues included in this column of the statement do not, in strict propriety, come within the description of the revenues of the ancient possessions, their introduction in this place is because, being principally derived from islands conquered from the European powers, it might probably be considered more incorrect to class them with the revenues of territories ceded by or conquered from the native princes upon the continent of India. From the year 1796-7 to 1801-2 the receipts comprised the revenues of Ceylon, and of Malacca and the Moluccas. From December, 1801, Ceylon was taken under the immediate government of the crown. The Moluccas were surrendered to the Dutch in consequence of the peace of Amiens, and no revenue has been derived from Malacca since 18 5-6. The receipts in 1806-7, and the two following years, are from the pearl and chank fishery at Tutacorin.

BOMBAY REVENUES.

The revenues of the company's ancient possessions under the presidency of Bombay are now to be noticed.

In 1793 they were estimated to produce	L.140,625
In the year 1808-9 their amount was	268,468
being an increase of . .	L127,843

In the statement marked A, they are shewn in three distinct heads, land revenues, customs, farms and licences.

By the mode of drawing up the accounts of this presidency from the year 1788-9 to 1781-2, these several branches not being separately stated, the estimate in 1793 was not formed to meet the detail of the items as shewn in later years. The first complete distinction of them in the statement is in the year 1796-7. The aggregate of the revenues of that year is L.119,432 which is less than the estimated amount in the year 1793 by L.21,193; but the average on the four years, 1792-3 to 1795-6, was L.145,804, exceeding the estimate in the sum of L.5,179; from which it is to be inferred, that the estimate was calculated on principles very nearly approaching to accuracy.

The revenues of this presidency, from the limited extent of the districts originally under its administration, are small compared with those of the other presidencies. An increase is exhibited in these revenues from the year 1800-1 inclusive, which is to be attributed to alterations occasioned by a treaty with the Nabob of Surat, dated 13th May, 1800. Before that period the company were in the receipt of a part only of the revenues of that city, under their long established rights as governors of the castle and commanders of the fleet at Surat. By the new treaty full powers are given for the management and collection of the revenues of the city and its dependencies, and generally for the whole government of them. The stipulations in the treaty for a payment to the Nabob, and the introduction of judicial arrangements will be found to have occasioned an addition to the charges.

On the present occasion it is proposed to examine the detail of the year 1796-7, as a comparison with the year 1808-9.

In the year 1796-7 the Land Revenues amounted to - - -	L.39,724
In 1808-9 to - - - - - - - -	45,700
being an increase of - - - -	L. 5,976

The increase on this head of revenue is in part, to be accounted for by the addition at Surat. Little further remark is requisite than that the proposal to extend to the whole of the territories under the British dominion, as far as practicable, the system of revenue and judicial administration established in Bengal, has been carried into effect at this presidency. The first measures for this purpose were adopted in the year 1799. Regulations have been enacted and promulgated upon the same principle as at the other presidences, adapting the provisions to the circumstances to which they were applicable.

The collection of the customs, in the year 1796-7 amounted to	L. 52,994

In 1808-9 it was	137,497
being an increase of	L. 84,503

The increase is in part, to be attributed to the levy of additional duties at Bombay, and in part to the arrangement by the treaty with the Nabob of Surat.

FARMS AND LICENSES.

Amount in 1796-7	L. 26,714
Amount in 1808-9	85,271
being an increase of	L. 58,557

This resource is derived from restrictions on the sale of tobacco, arrack, and other articles for consumption by the inhabitants.

The increase may be ascribed to the attention of government to render it productive, and to the arrangement under which the whole of the revenues of Surat devolved to the company.

SUBSIDIES AND REVENUES OF CEDED AND CONQUERED NATIONS.

The next branch of these accounts to which your committee have directed their attention, is the amount realized by receipts from subsidies in consequence of treaties with the native princes of India, or from the Revenues of territories conquered by the British arms. They will be found to form a considerable part of the resources of the company, and it has been thought proper to exhibit the detail of the whole of them in one distinct view, separate from the ancient possessions, although the management falls under the adminstration of different presidencies. This has been done in the supplementary statement, marked B.

With the exception of the subsidy from the Rajah of Travancore, the stipulations under the treaties with the several native princes in the way of subsidy, have, since the year 1793, been commuted for cession of districts, the revenues of which are received as an equivalent for the payment of the expence of the company's forces employed for the protection of their dominions respectively. Explanations will be given in the examination of the detail of the statement now adverted to.

The review of this statement will shew that the political relations of the company in India have been greatly changed and enlarged within the period under examination. The investigation of the charges of the Indian government in general is proposed to be taken up distinctly in another part of this report, and it will then appear that the increased civil charge to be exhibited has been enhanced in a very considerable degree, in consequence of cessions obtained under subsidiary arrangements, or of territories acquired by conquest. The examination of this branch separately has therefore been thought preferable. But before entering upon the detail, it is proper to premise, that the charges consist solely of the expence attending the collection of the revenues and administration of justice, with the payments made to the nabobs or princes, and their dependants; the net amount being supposed to be applicable to the discharge of such parts of military expences, which may have been incurred under the engagements of the treaties, or have been produced by additional forces required for maintaining the conquests. The estimate of 1793 was formed soon after the receipt of the advices of the conclusion of the Mysore war in 1792, and the calculations were made under very imperfect information of the real value of the districts obtained under the treaty then concluded with Tippoo. The receipts from Oude, Arcot and Tanjore, were agreeable to the treaties, as will be hereafter more particularly explained. According to the estimate, the expectations from subsidiary arrangements were stated as follows:

	Gross Receipt.	Charge.	Net.
	L.	L.	L.
	1,440,000	25,800	1,414,200
For reasons assigned in the former part of this report, the general comparison of this branch must necessarily be made with the year 1806-7, in which year the amount is stated at	6,741,096	2,495,367	4,245,729
being an increase of	5,301,096	2,469,567	2,831,529

The pursuit of the examination in detail of this statement will first lead to,

The RECEIPT from the NABOB OF OUDE, which was estimated in 1793 as follows:

Gross - - - - - -	L.530,000
Charges - - - - -	25,800
Net - - - -	L.504,200

The ceded district of Oude, being under the administration of the Bengal presidency, the year 1806-7 must be taken as the period for comparison. In that year the gross revenues were - - - - L.1,742,534

the charges -	511,255
and the net revenue -	1,231,279

exceeding the estimate in 1793, in gross receipt, L.1,212,534; in net - - L. 727,079

The estimate formed in the year 1793, is stated to have been drawn in conformity with the treaty or agreement with the Nabob of Oude in the year 1787, under which a stipulated sum was to be paid for the employment of a specific number of the company's troops for the protection of the nabob's dominions, and providing that the sum stipulated to be paid should be increased or diminished, according to the alteration which might be made in the number of troops so employed.

On the 20th March, 1797 the nabob agreed to the addition of 5½ lacs of rupees per annum, for an increased military force of one regiment of European, and one of native cavalry.

These agreements continued in operation till the end of the year 1797. The increase of subsidy, after that period to 1800-1, was in consequence of a new treaty with the present reigning nabob of Oude, Saudut Ally Khan, who succeeded to the Musnud on the deposition of the nabob Vizier Ally the immediate successor of Asoph ul Dowlah. This treaty was dated the 21st February, 1798, to commence from the 21st January. The sum stipulated to be paid by the nabob Vizier was L.844,152 per annum, including stipends and pensions to be paid to the Begums, princes, &c. The force to be supplied by the company was never to be less than 10,000 men, including Europeans, natives, cavalry, and infantry; if it should become necessary to increase them beyond 13,000, the actual difference of expence to be paid by the Nabob; and if from any necessity reduced below 8,000 men, a deduction to be made from the annual stipend, equal to the actual difference below the stipulated number. Temporary provisions were made respecting the expence of the repairs of forts and of placing the Nabob Saadut Ally upon the throne. The political situation of India requiring a force exceeding the 13,000 men, as stipulated, to be stationed in Oude from the year 1798-9 to 1800-1. the receipts from the Nabob appear greater in those years.

This treaty continued in operation till the year 1801, when it was superseded by another treaty, dated the 10th November, under which districts were ceded in perpetual sovereignty to the company, estimated at a jumma or annual gross rent of Lucknow Sicca rupees 1,35,23,474, or L. 1,502,052. The districts were to be delivered to the company from the 22d September. This territorial cession being declared to be in lieu of the subsidy and of all expences on account of defensive engagements, no demand is to be made in future upon the Vizier, either for the expence of the British detachments attached to his person, or on any other account whatever.

The financial effect of this alteration in the engagement with the nabob of Oude is shewn in the statement from the year 1801-2, by increased receipt and additional charge for the management of the revenues and the administration of justice in the ceded districts. Antecedent to this period, the charges stated in the account as disbursed, were merely those of the residences at Lucknow and with Scindia.

On the 14th of July, 1802, a proclamation was issued, declaring the intention of the government respecting the plan of settlement of the landed revenue of the ceded districts, which, after the trial of two triennial settlements, finally extended to ten years, with increased rents in each period, upon principles detailed in the proclamation, and was eventually to lead, under certain reservations and provisions, to a permanent settlement. In March 1803 a code of laws was published for the internal government of the districts, in a number of regulations according to the plan in practice as to the lower provinces, defining the principles both of revenue management and judicial administration. Others have been since passed, modifying and amending the former regulations as occasion required.

The management of these newly-ceded districts was at first committed to a lieutenant governor and three commissioners, with proper officers for the collection of the revenue and the administration of justice. In the year 1803 the offices of lieutenant-governor and of commissioners were abolished, and the superintendance was committed to the board of revenue at the presidency.

In 1807 a temporary commission was appointed, for the purpose of an inquiry, preparatory to the completion of settlement of the rents of these districts. The revenue letter from Bengal of the 7th April, 1809, advises the establishment of these commissioners as a permanent board having been determined upon, and that their jurisdiction was to comprehend the whole of the upper provinces, viz. the ceded in Oude, the conquered, and the Benares district. The controul of the board of revenue over the collections, and of the board of trade over the customs, with the exception of Cuttack, is transferred to the board of commissioners.

The great receipt in the year 1802-3, arises from the recovery of balances of the revenues of the preceding year. The increased receipt from Oude, after the year 1800-1, is to be attributed to the complete alteration of the relations with the nabob of Oude in the commutation of territory for subsidy. The improvement of the Revenue of the districts since they have been under the management of the company's government, is shewn by the latter years of the statement.

ARCOT.

Subsidy and Collections of the Revenues of the Carnatic.

The subsidy was estimated in 1793 at - - - - - -		L.360,000
The gross revenues of the Carnatic amounted in the year 1808-9 to - -	L.1,016,679	
and the charges, including the payment of the nabob's share of the revenues reserved under the treaty, at -	414,308	
making a net revenue of -		602,371
which is more than the subsidy, as estimated in 1793, by the sum of - - - - - - -		L.242,371

The sum estimated in 1793 was according to the stipulations of the treaty concluded by the marquis Cornwallis with the nabob of Arcot, dated 12th July, 1792. By those stipulations, as applicable to the nabob, he was bound to the annual payment of a subsidy amounting to L,608,442, of which sum 248,442l. was to be applied to the liquidation of the debts due to his private creditors, leaving 360,000l. as a subsidy to the company: 502,560l. was to be paid by the nabob in monthly kists, (or instalments) the remainder was to be received by a transfer of the peshcush or tribute payable by the poligars of certain districts mentioned in the schedule of the treaty. The subsidy of 360,000l. was stated to be for the nabob's share of the expence of the company's military forces; but in the event of occasion arising on the part of the nabob for any number of troops for collection of his revenues, or support of his authority, the additional extra expence was to be charged to him. In the event of the kists payable to the company falling in arrear, power of assumption of certain districts was reserved to the company.

It has been remarked that the estimate of 1793 was framed according to that treaty. The receipts from Arcot, in the statement marked B., in the year 1792-3, differ from this estimate, from the revenues of the Carnatic having been collected by the company for a part of that year. They were assumed, under the treaty of 1787, during the war with Tippoo then concluded. The assumed districts having been delivered over to the nabob soon after the execution of the treaty of 1792, the payments made by his highness from 1792-3 to 1800-1 were in conformity with the stipulations of that treaty.

On the 31st July, 1801, a new treaty was concluded with the nabob of Arcot, vesting the civil and military government of the Carnatic in the company, together with the full and exclusive right to the revenues thereof for ever: reserving to the nabob the annual payment of one fifth part of the net collections upon principles defined in the treaty; the company engaging to apply the annual sum of 248,442l. to the liquidation of the nabob's registered private debts, according to the stipulation of the treaty of 1792, till it should be completed. The entire defence of the Carnatic, and the maintenance of internal tranquillity and police, were undertaken by the company. The treaty to take place from the 1st July, 1801.

The effect of this new arrangement appears in the statement from the year 1801-2. The gross receipt of the year 1803-4 was the greatest realized since the cession of the districts to the company. It was less in 1804-5, but in 1806-7 a considerable defalcation appears. The settlements on which the collections of 1803-4 and 1804-5 were made, were found too high for the following years; but the defalcation in 1806-7 is chiefly to be ascribed to the severe drought over almost the whole of the Peninsula. The charges include the payments to the nabob for his share, which must vary with the amount of the revenues, and the expenses, of every description attending the civil administration of the countries, which have been increased since 1806 by the general introduction of the judicial system. The increased net receipt on the present comparison is to be attributed to the change produced by the treaty of 1801; and it is to be remarked that the gross receipt is exclusive of the sum set apart for the liquidation of the private debts of the nabob; respecting which it is to be observed, that the sum of 248,442l. which has already been adverted to, as set apart for the liquidation of those debts, in conformity with the treaty of 1792, was appropriated to that purpose, till the whole amount of the several classes, which had been arranged in consequence of instructions to the Madras government by letter dated 9th December, 1784, in conformity with the act of the 24th Geo. 3d. cap. 25. sec. 37. was paid off. This was accomplished in the year 1804. Since that period measures have been taken for the liquidation of the debts which were not included in those classes, as well as what were afterwards incurred. Commissioners have been appointed in England and at Madras for examining and making up the account, and the annual sum of Pagodas 3,40,000, or 136,000l. has been set apart from the revenues for the payment of the same.

Tanjore subsidy and collection of the revenues.

The subsidy was estimated in 1793 at - - - - - - - - -		160,000
The gross collection of the revenues amounted in the year 1808-9 to - - - - - - -	431,405	
The charges including the payment to the rajah to - - - - - -	139,054	
And the net revenue to - - -		292,351
Exceeding the amount of the subsidy estimated in the year 1793		£.132,351

The sum estimated in 1793, to be payable under this head, was according to a treaty proposed to be entered upon with the rajah of Tanjore in the year 1792. The payments stipulated to be made by the rajah to the company for his share of the military expenses, upon the principle on which the nabob of Arcot had agreed to contribute towards those expenses, was 160,000l.; 140,000l. as an annual subsidy, and 20,000l. for the part of his former subsidy which had fallen in arrear: 45,714l. for peshcush or tribute to the nabob of Arcot, and 24,000l. for the liquidation of his private debts. In the whole 229,714l. The payment of the peshcush was to be deferred for three years, to be afterwards recoverable. Power was reserved for assumption of the revenues, in the event of failure in the regular payment of the kists detailed in the treaty.

The war with Tippoo having ended early in the year 1792, it was thought a very proper season for entering into treaties with the nabob of Arcot, and the rajah of Tanjore, more suited to the abilities of their respective countries than those concluded with them in the year 1787, which had been acted upon to this period. The arrangement with the nabob of Arcot has been already stated. It was expected that the treaty proposed to be made with the rajah of Tanjore would have been executed at the same time, in which case the management of the revenues of his country, which had been assumed during the war, in like manner with those of Arcot, would also have been surrendered to him, but a variety of obstacles retarded the conclusion of the arrangement, partly from the rejection at first by the rajah of the terms proposed, and partly from doubts having been entertained of the propriety of entrusting him, at that time, with the charge and management of the public revenue, which had been assumed as security for the subsidy. It was not therefore till the 12th July, 1793, that the treaty was executed, and the country surrendered to his management.

The effects of the above appear in the receipts of the year 1792-3 and 1793-4, as shewn in the statement. It will likewise appear that, though the country was surrendered to the rajah, he did not fulfil the stipulated engagements of the treaty, but fell short in his payments in the year 1794-5 to the amount of 20,000l. This failure is to be attributed to the complete disorder into which the whole of the internal management of his affairs had fallen, insomuch as to endanger the future realization of either the accruing demands, or of the existing arrears of the former subsidy. It became therefore necessary for the Madras government to avail itself of the powers reserved by the treaty, by assuming the management of the districts assigned as security for the fulfilment of the terms of it. The effect of this measure is shewn in the receipt of the year 1795-6.

It is not deemed necessary in this place to state in detail the deposition of the rajah, the measures pursued for placing the legal heir upon the Musnud, or the commission appointed to investigate the state of affairs in the country, as it is merely proposed to bring to notice the leading circumstances which affected the receipt and the expenditure. It is therefore only requisite to remark that the assumed districts remained under the management of the company's servants till the year 1799. On the 25th October of that year, the rajah, who had been called to the succession on the opinions of the most respectable pundits as to his legal right, entered into another treaty, in which he surrendered the whole of the revenues of the country to the exclusive management of the company, reserving to himself the annual payment of one lack of pagodas, or 40,000l. and one-fifth of the net revenues, to be computed on principles defined in the treaty. The revenues derived from Tanjore continue to be realized agreeably to the terms of this treaty, and the internal management of the districts has been assimilated, as much as possible, both in collection of revenue and administration of justice, to the system in practice in other territories of the company.

The alteration which is exhibited on the comparison with the estimate in 1793, is to be attributed to the change of circumstances as above stated.

Mysore.

The net collections from these districts were estimated in 1793 to amount to - -		390,000
The revenues realized, together with the subsidy from the Rajah in the year 1808-9, amounted to - -	1,540,228	
Deduct charges of collecting the revenue, &c. - -	280,302	
The net receipt is - -		1,259,926
Which exceeds the estimate made in the year 1793, in the sum of - - - -		L. 869,926

This part of the territories was acquired by conquest, and the great increase in the net revenue is to be attributed to the entire change which has been produced since the year 1793. The estimate formed at that period was calculated upon rather imperfect information as to the real value of the dis-

tricts devolved to the company in consequence of the treaty of Seringapatam, concluded after the highly favourable issue of the war, which terminated in the commencement of the year 1792. By that treaty the Nabob Tippoo Sultan surrendered one half of his dominions. The war having been conducted by the united operations of the forces of the company, the Nizam and the Peishwa, an equal division of the conquered territories was made between the allies, as specified in the schedules to the treaty.

The Jumma or rent roll of the company's share was rated at canterai pagodas 13.16,765, or 438,921*l.* The estimate in 1793 was taken on what was, at the time, conceived a moderate scale of calculation, being 70,000*l.* below the amount warranted by the advices from India. The inspection of the statement will shew that during the first four years, 1792-3 to 1795-6, the gross collections were considerably below the amount in the Jumma: on the average of the three following years they exceeded the Jumma; but the net produce during the whole of this period, viz. 1792-3 to 1798-9, never reached the sum estimated in 1793. The internal tranquillity of one of the principal districts having frequently been disturbed, must have occasioned some loss of revenue.

The complete change of circumstances, which has been adverted to, was produced by the war which ended in the year 1799, in the death of Tippoo, and the entire conquest of the whole of his dominions. The effect is shewn in the statement from the year 1799-1800. After that event the legitimate rajah of Mysore was placed upon his throne, and a partition treaty was concluded: the shares of territory allotted to the rajah of Mysore, the company, the Nizam, and the Peishwa, are shewn in distinct schedules. The surrender of the part allotted to the Peishwa was subject to certain conditions on his part, which on his failing to fulfil them, was to be made over to the nizam, and the company: two-thirds to the former, and one third to the latter. The Peishwa's share was subsequently divided in that proportion.

The additional revenues which fell to the company in consequence of this treaty may be estimated as follows:

Share of territory pags.	6,47,641
Deduct allowances to the families of Hyder Ally, and Tippoo - - -	2,00,000
	4,47,641
A separate treaty was concluded with the rajah of Mysore, stipulating the payment of a subsidy to the company, for the defence of his dominions, amounting to -	7,00,000
Total Pags.	11,47,641
or *L.* sterling. - -	459,056

The whole gross revenue, as stated in the schedules of the treaties of 1792 and 1799, might be estimated as follows:

Treaty of 1792 - - -	*l.* 438,921
Treaties of 1799 - - -	459,056
Total - -	*l.* 897,977

The correctness of the accounts on which the schedules to the treaties were formed was much doubted. After the capture of Seringapatam in 1799 a very intelligent officer was appointed to enter upon a minute investigation of the rent rolls of the districts. According to his report, the rental of those acquired by the company in 1799 was calculated at pagodas 14,78,698 or 591,479*l.* on this principle the revenue obtained by the conquest might be stated as follows:

Territories - - - - -	*l.* 591,479
Deduct pensions - - -	80,000
	511,479
Subsidy from the rajah -	280,000
	791,479
Adding what was estimated under the treaty of 1792 - - - - - -	438,921
The whole amount estimated to be derived by the conquest of Mysore might be stated at - - - - - -	1,230,400
To shew the gross produce, add pensions, as they are included in the charge in the statement - - - - - -	80,000
when the estimated total gross revenues will be	*l.* 1,310,000

which calculation is found to be nearly verified by the actual accounts for the year 1800-1, and forms some proof of the correctness of the estimate now made.

The system of management in practice in the other provinces, as to the collection of revenue and administration of justice, has been introduced, wherever practicable, into these districts, and the charges comprize the expense attending the same, and the allowances and pensions consequent upon the possession of the country.

Subsidy from the Nizam, and revenues of the districts ceded by him.

It was not thought proper to include, in the estimate of the year 1793, any sum

on account of the subsidy from the Nizam, as nothing was inserted upon this account either in the statements of the preceding years to 1790-1, or in the estimates received from India for the year 1791-2. The view of the statement will shew a change in the relations with the Nizam, as complete as what has been exhibited in those with the other princes.

The origin of any subsidiary engagement appears to have been in the treaty of the year 1768, but the more immediate cause which led to the first payment of a subsidy from him, which appears in the year 1792-3 of the statement, is to be found in a letter from the governor-general to that prince, dated the 7th July, 1789, in which principles were laid down, and afterwards acted upon, as having the full force of a treaty. Those principles recognized the stipulations in the treaty of 1768, in so far as they were applicable to the furnishing of a military force by the company for the service of the Nizam, and to the subsidiary payment in consequence. It rested with his highness to make application for the force, which was to consist of two battalions of Sepoys of not less than 800 men each, and six field-pieces to be manned with the number of Europeans usual in time of war, the expense of which was to be charged at no more than the exact sum such a force would cost when employed in the field. The force was to march within two months, or sooner if possible, after being demanded. The charge to commence from the day of entering his territories, and to cease from the day of quitting them, with the addition of one month for defraying the necessary charges of preparing the detachment for service.

In the year 1790, on the Nizam's application for the supply of this force, it was ordered accordingly. The payment made as a subsidy, in conformity with this treaty or agreement, continued from 1792-3 to 1797-8.

In consequence of the political situation of India, from the designs of Tippoo Sultaun in concert with the French, defensive measures were thought necessary. The Nizam having expressed a desire for an increase of the detachment serving in his dominions, on the 1st September, 1798, a new subsidiary treaty was entered into with him. The detachment was increased to 6,000 Sepoys, with a due proportion of field-pieces manned with Europeans, and the subsidiary payment for the same was fixed at Arcot rupees 24,17,100 or 276,240l. payable in silver of full currency in four equal installments. A provision was made for assignment of territories, in the event of the payment falling in arrear. The effect of this increase appears in the receipts of the years 1798-9 and 1799-1800.

On the 12th October, 1800, a treaty of perpetual and general defensive alliance was concluded with the Nizam, in which material alterations were made in the connections with his Highness. The force to be supplied by the company for the general defence and protection of his dominions was increased to eight battalions of Sepoys, or 8000 rank and file, and two regiments of 1000 cavalry, or horse, with their requisite complement of guns, European artillery men, lascars and pioneers, fully equipped with warlike stores and ammunition, to be stationed in perpetuity in his Highness's dominions. For the payment of this force, the territories acquired by the Nizam under the treaty of Seringapatam of the 18th March, 1792, and under the treaty of Mysore of the 22d June, 1799, according to the schedules, were ceded in perpetuity to the company, and the revenues of them were to be considered as a full and complete satisfaction of all demands on account of the subsidiary force. Some changes of territory for the accommodation of the respective boundaries were stipulated for, but, according to the schedules, to the treaty, the annual jumma of the ceded districts may be estimated at Pagodas 17,58,000, or 703,200 gross revenue.

From the year 1800-1 in the statement the effect of this last arrangement is exhibited. It will appear that the gross receipt, as above estimated, has been fully realized in one year only, viz. 1807-8; it is however to be remarked that at the time the districts were made over to the company their internal situation was very unpromising, and the inhabitants were much impoverished. Considerable improvements have been produced, and the hope may be entertained of the original estimated assessment being exceeded.

The charges here shewn are for the expense of management, and payments of pensions to some of the Nizam's officers.

The system in general practice for the collection of the revenues and the administration of justice has been introduced as far as practicable, into these districts.

The net revenue is the sum applicable to the payment of the expence of the subsidiary force furnished under the treaty.

Subsidy from the Rajah of Travancore.

The estimate of 1793 did not state any expectation under this head. According to the Madras accounts, the Rajah had made subsidiary payments to the company from the year 1789-90. The omission is supposed to have arisen from the circumstance of the payments not having been made under permanent engagements.

The war with Tippoo, concluded in the year 1792, had for its first ostensible cause the attack by that prince on the lines of the Rajah of Travancore, who was in close alliance with the company. It was therefore considered as a matter of justice that

the Rajah should, in like manner with the nabob of Arcot and the Rajah of Tanjore, be called upon to contribute, according to his ability, his proportion towards the expenses of the war. The proportion was calculated at half the amount of his net revenues. The last payment, to any amount, appears in the statement to have been made in 1792-3. A small sum was received in 1793-4. After this period the settlement of accounts with the Rajah was transferred from Madras to Bombay, but, during the three years 1794-5 to 1796-7, nothing was received under this head. In the year 1795 a permanent treaty was concluded with the Rajah, subject to the ratification or approval of the Court of Directors, in which it was stipulated that a subsidiary force should be furnished by the company for the service of the Rajah, consisting of three battalions of Sepoys, one company of European artillery, and two companies of Lascars, for which a sum was to be paid annually, equivalent to the expense of the same.

No payment was made under this treaty till the year 1797-8. From 1798-9 to 1806 the amount of this subsidy, fixed at 42,914l. has been annually realized in the way of set-off in the accounts with the Rajah for pepper furnished by him under contract. It is to be remarked that in January, 1805, another treaty was entered into with the Rajah, increasing the subsidiary force by one complete regiment of native infantry, and adding to the subsidy to the amount of 45,186, for the expense of it; but no payment was made on account of the additional subsidy, for nearly two years subsequent to the conclusion of the treaty, notwithstanding the remission of half of it for that period. In the year 1808, through the intrigues of the Dewan of the Rajah, serious disturbances occurred, and ended in direct hostility against the company, which was happily subdued; and the Rajah is stated to have made a considerable payment in discharge of the arrears of subsidy.

SUBSIDY FROM THE RAJAH OF COCHIN.

No estimate was made of any payment under this head. The only receipts from the Rajah upon this account, were in the years 1791-2, and 1792-3.

The Rajah was, previously to 1791, a tributary to Tippoo Sultaun. On the 6th January of that year, he threw off his allegiance, and became tributary to the company, and entered into a treaty accordingly, fixing his yearly tribute to rise in three years from 70,000 to 1,00,000 rupees, at which it was to continue.

The possession of Malabar by the company after 1792, and the conquest of Cochin from the Dutch, having placed the situation of the Rajah upon another footing with the company, nothing further has been received on the basis of the above treaty.

COLLECTIONS FROM THE DISTRICTS CEDED BY THE GUICOWAR RAJAH.

The political connection with the Guicowar Rajah (as exhibited in the statement) commenced in March, 1802, when articles of convention were entered into with him, in consequence of his having solicited the assistance of English troops in securing his right as legitimate heir. This convention provided, in the first place, for the reimbursement of the expence which might attend his re-establishment, by a temporary assignment or mortgage of certain districts; and, in the second place, for permanently subsidizing about 2,000 sepoys, a company of European artillery, and two companies of Lascars, including the establishment of stores, the whole expence of which was computed in estimate at the rate of 65,000 rupees per month, or 87,750 per annum, for the payment of which, lands were to be afterwards ceded to the company. A cession from the former Rajah was recognized by this convention. On the 6th June following, the war having ended successfully, an agreement was entered into with the Rajah confirming the convention of the 15th March, and making other cessions of territory, but it was not till the 21st April, 1805, that the definitive treaty was concluded, on which the present connection with the Rajah is established. The subsidiary force to be permanently stationed in his dominions was fixed at 3,000 native infantry, one company of European artillery, two companies of gun Lascars, with necessary ordinance, warlike stores, and ammunition, for the expence of which districts producing a revenue of 131,625l. as described in a schedule, were ceded to the company. The former cessions were also confirmed, and the districts were mortgaged, till the advances made by the company on account of the Rajah shall be liquidated. The effect of these several arrangements is shewn in the statement. The receipts are exclusive of what has been recovered of the debt owing by the Rajah to the company; the charges are those of management. The revenue and judicial systems have been extended to certain parts of the soubah or province.

The revenues of the districts acquired by cession and conquest from the Mahrattas, as shewn in the last column of the statement, are now to be examined.

Although a treaty of offensive and defensive alliance subsisted between the Peishwa and the company at the time of the formation of the estimate of 1793, no notice was taken of the subsidiary stipulations of that treaty, as they were not of a permanent description. This treaty was dated the 5th July, 1790. It was entered into during the war with Tippoo then depending, and stipulated for the employment of two battalions of the com-

pany's forces, the charge of which was to be defrayed by the Peishwa; the receipt in 1792-3 was upon this account, and that in 1794-5 was in the discharge of the balance remaining due under the treaty. The receipts in the year 1803-4 and the subsequent years, were in consequence of the acquirement of territories from the Peishwa under a treaty of cession, and from Dowlut Row Scindia and the rajah of Berar by conquest. The cessions by the Peishwa were made under the instrument denominated the treaty of Bassein, which was concluded with his highness on the 31st December, 1802.

Under this treaty the company were engaged to furnish a subsidiary force for the service of the Peishwa, consisting of 6,000 native infantry, and the usual proportion of field pieces and European artillery-men, with the proper equipment of warlike stores and ammunition, to be stationed in perpetuity in his highness's dominions. For the payment of the expense of this force territories were ceded, producing, according to the schedule, a rental of 26 lacks of rupees; reserving a provision for an exchange if afterwards found necessary, or for additional cessions if the ceded districts should not, after the experience of three years, realize their computed value. Provisions were likewise made for mutual assistance in the event of war, and for other circumstances.

On the 16th December, 1803, this treaty underwent a considerable modification, and an agreement or supplemental treaty was concluded, which is the basis on which the districts ceded by the Peishwa are now held. Under this agreement the subsidiary force was increased by the addition of a regiment of native cavalry; and some alteration was made in the principle of mutual assistance in the event of war; a change of the territories ceded under the former treaty was also made. Districts situated in the Carnatic and in Guzerat, valued in the schedule at 19,16,000 rupees, were commuted for territory in Bundlecund valued at rupees 36,16,000; but it is to be remarked that, at the time of the conclusion of this treaty, the district of Bundlecund was in a disturbed state, and the necessity existed for the employment of a military force to establish an authority over the country; extraordinary provision was therefore made in the above computation of the value of the cession to defray that expense.

The receipts from the Peishwa are on land rents, customs and duties, partly in Surat, and partly in the province of Bundlecund, the former under the management of the Bombay government, and the latter under that of Bengal.

The districts obtained by conquest from Dowlut Row Scindiah were first established in the possession of the company by the treaty of peace dated the 30th December, 1803; but a misunderstanding having arisen between the parties, another treaty was entered into the 22d November, 1805, to which supplemental or declaratory articles were annexed. By this treaty the boundaries of the conquered districts are defined. These districts are situated in the Dooab, and to the westward of the Jumna, and are under the management of the Bengal government, to which is to be added Broach and its dependencies, which is under the direction of the Bombay government.

The part acquired by conquest for the rajah of Berar, was finally surrendered under the treaty of peace dated the 17th December, 1803. It comprises the province of Cuttack, including the port and district of Ballasore and is a dependency under the Bengal government.

The receipts contain the gross revenues of these several districts obtained from the Mahrattas by treaty or conquest. The charges are those of the management of the revenues, and the administration of justice, which have been introduced upon the system in general practice. They likewise include the stipends, allowances, and pensions paid to the royal family at Delhi and their dependants, and to other persons, agreeably to stipulations in the treaties with the Peishwa and Scindia.

The collections have been made on settlements concluded from year to year. It being of importance for the proper administration of these districts, and the more accurately ascertaining their real value, a local commission was determined upon in the year 1807, which has been already noticed in the revenues of Oude, was in the year 1809 rendered permanent, and their superintendance extended to the ceded districts of Oude, and to the province of Benares.

CHARGES.

The charges of the administration of the government of India are next to be examined, upon the same principle of comparison as the revenues, and such explanations will be given as circumstances may appear to prescribe. The want of the detailed accounts of the Bengal presidency, as already noticed, will induce the necessity of occasionally taking the year 1806-7 as the period of comparison, upon a similar principle with the revenues.

The expenditure consequent upon the possession of the ceded and conquered districts, in so far as relates to the civil administration of them, and the stipulated and other payments to the native princes and their dependants, having been already investigated, it will be necessary to make an adjustment of the amount so disbursed in the examination now proposed to be made.

The entire charges of the government of India were estimated in the year 1793 at - - - - - - - - -	*l.* 5,188,125
Deduct those attending the subsidies - - - - - - -	25,800
The net amount, as estimated in 1793, will then be - - -	5,162,325
From the want of detail of certain accounts the comparison must necessarily be made with the year 1806-7, in which year the total charges amounted to 15,283,908	
from which, deducting the civil charges of the ceded and conquered districts - - 2,495,367	
the net amount will be	12,788,541
Which exceeds the estimate of the year 1793 in the sum of	- *l.* 7,626,216

But the comparison with this period, although in some measure prescribed by necessity, from the want of documents by which the charges of the ceded and conquered districts might be stated in detail for the years 1807-8 and 1808-9, is not quite correct, nor a fair criterion of the state of affairs at the two periods, nor is it in coincidence with the view given of the aggregate of the revenues, or of the general results as estimated in 1793, and by the actual accounts of the year 1808-9. The charges disbursed in the year 1806-7, were greatly enhanced from including arrears incurred during the late war, and the deficit was in consequence very large. The charge in the year 1808-9 is not affected by those circumstances, and the effect of measures of retrenchment adopted by the Indian governments is beneficially experienced.

The difference between the general result of the year 1806-7, and that of the year 1808-9, was not less than 3,126,280*l.* of which sum 989,316*l.* was produced by increased revenues, and 2,132,684*l.* by a diminution of the charges. It would have been satisfactory to have found it practicable to make an accurate adjustment of the charges of 1808-9, for the purpose of a comparison with this year, but as that cannot be done, the only course to be pursued is, to supply the defect by such general information as can be derived from the statements. Comparing the aggregate charge, estimated in the year 1793 at - - - - - 5,188,125

with that disbursed in 1806-7, amounting to - - - - -	15,283,908
the increase would be - -	10,095,783
and with that disbursed in 1808-9, amounting to - -	13,151,224
the increase would be - -	7,963,099
which is less than is shewn in the comparison with 1806-7, in the sum already stated as diminution of charge, viz.	*l.* 2,132,684

The increase of charges, on comparison with the estimate of 1793, excluding those of the ceded and conquered countries, has been shewn to amount, in the year 1806-7, to 7,626,216*l.* The increase, in the comparison with 1808-9, including the charges of those countries, has been stated at 7,963,099*l.*

Reasons have been assigned for assuming the estimate, made in the year 1793, as the basis of comparison with the actual accounts of the latest period. It must, nevertheless, be remarked, that the actual accounts of the year 1793-4, might perhaps be considered a more proper period of comparison of the expenditure, as that year was the first of the operation of the important civil arrangements, in Bengal already noticed, the charge attending which is to be examined hereafter in detail; and as in that year the military arrangements, after the conclusion of the war, had been completed, as will likewise be more particularly adverted to.

The gross charge of the year 1793-4 was 6,066,924*l.* being less than in 1808-9 by 7,084,300*l.*; of which 4,182,764 is in the military charges, and buildings and fortifications; and 415,671*l.* in increased civil charges at Madras and Bombay: 976,303*l.* in the ceded and conquered countries under the Bengal presidency, as far as can be traced in the accounts; 860,428*l.* in those under Madras and Bombay, leaving the sum of 648,799*l.* to be accounted for, partly in the charges of the ceded and conquered districts under Bengal, and partly in the increased civil expenses of that presidency, the detail of which is wanting.

Notwithstanding the proposition of taking the year 1793-4 for the immediate purpose of comparison with the charges by the last accounts, it is not intended to depart from the plan originally laid down in this report with regard to the estimate of 1793; but in the pursuit of the examination of the detail of the various heads of charge, the views entertained by that estimate will be noticed, and such explanatory remarks offered respecting them, as occasion may require.

In the general statement, the charges, exclusive of those of the ceded and conquered districts, are separated into three heads: the military, the expense of buildings and fortifications, and the civil charges, which comprize every other item of fixed expenditure, and are shewn in detail in the supplementary statement marked C.

It is to be remarked that the amount of the several heads of charge respectively, as exhibited in the columns of the statement, are taken from the columns of the accounts laid before parliament, which shew the sums actually disbursed in the year; consequently, those sums may not always be considered as the actual charge appertaining to the year; as it occasionally happened that in some years, a part of the charge became in arrear, and fell upon the disbursement

of the next year, by which the charge of one year appeared at a less amount, and that of another was enhanced in proportion.

MILITARY CHARGES.

The separation of the military charges, and those of buildings and fortifications, under distinct heads or columns, having been noticed, it may not be improper to offer some explanation of the reason of making this separation, in so far as respects the military charge. The army in India, though divided under the administration of the three presidencies respectively, is, in its aggregate, to be considered as engaged for the protection of the empire at large. The immense increase, both in numbers and expense, demands more particular examination as to the immediate causes of it; and it is conceived that this examination can best be made by a combination of the entire military charge. It is, however, to be premised, that the present numerical force of the army cannot be said to have been determined merely by the extent of the company's ancient possessions, but it is governed likewise by subsidiary stipulations, under treaties with the native princes of India, and by the increase required in consequence of the additional territories obtained by conquest.

When the estimate was framed in the year 1793, the political state of India was very different to what it was at the latter periods in the statement. The principle on which the calculations in that estimate were made was governed by the circumstances of the time, having in view the establishment and continuance of peace. The opinion of the late marquis Cornwallis was adverted to in support of those calculations, and the expense incurred previous to the war with Tippoo Sultaun, then recently concluded, was adopted for the general rule as to the estimate of the future prospects. On these several grounds, the military charges were estimated in the year 1793 at the sum of - - - - 2,917,500*l.*

It is found necessary to the comparison with the charge of the year 1808-9, to add the buildings and fortifications, because the military buildings at Bengal in that year could not be separated. Add therefore - - - - -	117,875	
		3,035,375*l.*
The actual military charge in 1808-9 was, including military buildings at Bengal - - - -	7,380,427*l.*	
Add remaining buildings and fortifications - - - - -	279,364	
		7,659,791
Increase beyond the estimate of 1793 - - - -		£4,624,416

The estimate of 1793 appears to have been calculated upon rather too low a scale as to the military charges; for, by the actual accounts of the year 1792-3, they amounted to a larger sum by 563,000*l.* this, however, may be in part imputed to the expense of winding up the war concluded in 1792.

It is proposed to take the expense of the year 1793-4 as the most proper for comparison with that of the year 1808-9, for the following reason. Although the war with France commenced in Europe in the early part of 1793, it could have but little effect upon the military charge in India during the year 1793-4; and, consequently, as peace had taken place generally in India, and as a small sum only was included for the arrears of the war, the expense might be considered as not far exceeding that of a peace establishment.

The military charges in the year 1793-4 amounted to - - -		3,361,837
and the expense of buildings and fortifications to - - -		115,190
Total - - - -		£3,477,027
The military charge in 1808-9, including military buildings at Bengal, amounted to	7,380,427	
And the remaining buildings and fortifications to - - -	279,364	
Together - - -		7,659,791
Increase in 1808-9 - - - -		4,182,764

It has been remarked, that the expense of the buildings and fortifications at Bengal could not be distinctly stated for the year 1808-9. This is to be ascribed to the circumstance of the military part of them being blended with the military charges in the abstract documents received from thence. The erection or repairs of military buildings must be governed, in a great measure, by casual circumstances. Upon the present occasion it is difficult to form any estimate of them. If the gross expense of buildings and fortifications at the presidency of Bengal in 1808-9 might be computed upon the average of the four years, 1803-4 to 1806-7, the part relating to the military, might be stated at 45,000*l.* This sum, added to the expence already mentioned for buildings, viz. 279,364*l.* would carry the whole charge of the buildings and fortifications to 324,364*l.* consequently the increase on that head, on a comparison with the year 1793-4, would be 209,174*l.* But this particular branch of expence will be considered in its proper place. The present remarks are introduced for the purpose of endea-

vouring to give a more distinct view of the increase in the military charge in the year 1808-9. Deducting therefore the sum of 209,174*l.* from 4,182,764*l.* the amount first stated as the increase combined with the buildings, the net increase of military charge, between 1793-4 and 1808-9, will then appear to be 3,973,590*l.*

From the want of the books from Bengal, there exists much difficulty in the way of accounting for this increase with satisfactory precision. The first explanation of the cause of it might be given from the increase of the numbers of the armies in nearly an equal ratio. This will appear on a reference to a comparative abstract view of the state of the armies of the three presidencies, which is placed in the appendix. By this abstract, an increase of effective force in rank and file is exhibited as follows:

		1794.	1808-9.	Increase.	Decrease.
Europeans,	His Majesty's - - - -	5,310	20,348	15,038	—
	Company's - - - -	8,190	4,026	—	4,164
Total Europeans - - - - - - - - -		13,500	24,374	Net 10,874	—
Natives - - - - - - - - - - - - - -		56,435	129,077	72,642	—
Grand Total - - - - - - - - - - -		69,935	153,451	Net 83,516	

But this explanation, although affording a plausible reason for the additional charge, is by far too general. It is therefore thought necessary to enter upon a more detailed examination of this materially important branch of the expenditure. In this process it is found, that the increased expence now shewn, is not merely to be imputed to the increase of the forces as to numbers, but is likewise to be ascribed to an alteration in the constitution or system on which the army was formed in the year 1794. This alteration is manifest on the face of the abstract already referred to; but, conceiving it proper that more detailed information upon this point should be furnished, copies of the abstracts of the military establishment books of the three presidencies on the 30th April, 1794, and the 30th April, 1807, are added to the appendix. It is to be remarked, that the books of the year 1807 are the latest received in a complete series, and although the aggregate amount of the expence may not exactly accord with the amount of the military charges in the year 1808-9, the abstracts now produced will, it is presumed, be useful in affording a general idea of the nature and numbers of the different corps of which the Indian armies are composed, and particularly as no alteration as to the number of regiments is known to have taken place since that period, except as to those of his majesty.

It is not requisite upon this occasion to enter at large into the detail of the alteration in the military system which has been alluded to, or of the causes which led to its adoption; it may suffice to state, that, from the constitution of the army, the officers were exposed to peculiar hardships; the increase of territory had, at that period, led to the increase of numbers, with which neither the gradations of rank, nor the proportion of officers, particularly of field-officers, were in conformity. The highest rank was that of colonel, and as promotion only took place in the line, the progress was so slow as to afford but a distant and discouraging prospect of attaining it. No provision existed for the relief of any who, from ill health, or other circumstances, found it necessary to visit their native country; nor for the retreat of those who, after a certain number of years of service, might wish to retire. These several circumstances were brought to the consideration of the Court of Directors, and of the Board of Commissioners for the Affairs of India, who, with the assistance of the opinions of the most respectable local authorities, entered upon a very laborious examination of the subject, and finally determined upon an entire new arrangement of the army. The detail of this arrangement was communicated to India by letters, dated January, 1796. The immediate effects of this measure will appear in the statement, No. 59 in the appendix, which shews, upon a general principle, that by this alteration in the establishment of the several corps of the army, the European infantry, before consisting of 12 battalions, was converted into six regiments; the native infantry, consisting of 13 brigades, (each brigade containing six battalions) being in the whole 78 battalions, was formed into 26 regiments of two battalions each; and that reforms were likewise made in the other corps of the army. By the formation of the army according to this principle the prospect of promotion was greatly enlarged: the rank of major-general was instituted in the company's service; the number of field-officers was increased; and the expectation of attaining the higher ranks, was rendered more encouraging, by the establishment of the principle of promotion in regiments according to seniority as follows: in the European and native infantry, to the rank of lieutenant-colonel; in the native cavalry, to the rank of captain, and afterwards in the line; the promotion in the artillery was continued in senio-

rity in the whole corps, according to the practice in his majesty's service; liberal provision was likewise made for allowances to a limited number of officers on furlough in Europe, and for the event of total retirement after the service of a certain number of years. A modification of the rule of promotion was directed by letters to India, dated in June and July, 1798, establishing it generally to be to the rank of major in the respective regiments, and afterwards by seniority in the whole corps, excepting the artillery, in which the promotion continued by seniority in the corps.

It is obvious, that a change so material could not be effected without considerable additional expence. Attention was, as far as practicable, paid to economy, by reducing certain allowances; but, according to estimates, which were prepared with as much accuracy as circumstances would admit of, the addition likely to be made to the military charges could not be taken, at a less amount than 400,000l., including the allowances on furlough and retirement.

It has appeared that the leading object of these several arrangements was the satisfaction of the European commissioned officers, and to afford them the relief which, on principles of justice and equity, they were entitled to; but the permanent military expences were shortly after considerably increased by an attention equally necessary and just, to the cases of the lower ranks, both European and native. As to the Europeans, it is to be observed, that it is an established general principle, that in respect of pay and allowances his majesty's and the company's forces are placed upon an equal footing. In the year 1797 an increase of pay was granted to the royal army by his majesty's order, dated 25th May; this grant extending to the service in India, the same increase was given to the company's European soldiers. An addition was likewise made in the year 1801 to the pay of the native officers and Sepoys at Madras and Bombay; a considerable additional expence, and of course an increase of the military charges, was occasioned by these grants, from the period at which they were respectively carried into effect.

The increase of numbers, as to rank and file, between the year 1793-4, and the year 1808-9, has been already adverted to, but the consideration of the expence of the army on its present establishment will naturally bring into view the state of it, according to the regulations passed in the year 1796, and as it is at present. The principal regular corps will only be noticed. It is proposed to shew the general state of the company's army according to those regulations, and according to the returns of the year 1808.

1796.—European: Artillery, 6 battalions Infantry 6 regiments.
Native: Cavalry 8 regiments, Infantry 26 regiments.

1808.—European: Artillery 6 battalions, Infantry 3 regiments.
Native: Cavalry 16 regiments, Infantry 59 regiments.

From which it will appear, that the alterations in the army were, the European infantry less by three regiments: the native cavalry more by eight regiments; and the native infantry more by thirty-three regiments.

The annual expence of these several additions to the military force, is, of course, greatly enhanced by the new principle of formation of the regiments in 1796, and by the increased pay to the Europeans and Natives, which, as to the Europeans, was still further increased by a grant, in the year 1807, made to his majesty's soldiers in Europe, and generally extended to those of his majesty's and the company's service on the Indian establishment.

It may not be necessary in this place to state in detail the measures adopted by the Indian governments on the receipt of the orders of 1796, or the modifications which were afterwards made by the court of directors in the years 1798 and 1801, as no material alteration appears in the general principle of the arrangements, except as to the operations of the orders of the court on the rule of regimental promotion; the increase of the strength of the artillery to seven companies each battalion; the reduction of three of the European regiments, with the increase of the numbers of the remaining three, and the formation of the Native cavalry, in regiments of greater strength by two troops each, with the addition of one cornet and thirty men to each troop; upon which occasion two of the Madras regiments of cavalry were ordered to be reduced, but which was not fully carried into effect.

The great addition to the strength of the army since the year 1796, with the immediate causes of it, may be considered the chief object of attention, as being the principal sources to which the large increase of the military expenditure is to be attributed. Adverting to the whole of the period in the statement, or at least from 1795-6, it may be pronounced to have been almost one continual scene of war, or preparation for it, European or Indian. In some instances the necessary measures of defence led to the raising of new regiments; in others, levies were required to supply the place of troops employed on expeditions undertaken against the possessions of the enemy. The combined effect of the whole has been shewn to produce an addition of king's regiments, and an increase in the establishment of the company's army to the extent already stated.

Referring to the total of the military charges in the statement marked No. 6, it will appear that they progressively in-

creased in amount, first, from the year 1795-6 to the year 1801-2 inclusive, which was almost entirely a period of active warfare. Ceylon, Malacca, and the Eastern Islands were conquered; which, with the maintenance of Ceylon to December, 1801, and of the other conquests till the year 1801-2, added considerably to the expence in each year. After that period, the military charge in this instance is included under the head of Dutch Settlements. An expedition was prepared upon a large scale to proceed against Manilla: though ultimately abandoned, it occasioned a considerable addition to the expences of 1797-8. The expedition to Egypt fell upon the charges from the year 1798-9 to 1801-2, and in a small degree upon 1802-3. Upon the Peninsula the French and Dutch settlements were captured immediately after the commencement of the war with those powers; but the most material addition to the military expences upon the continent of India, between the years 1796-7 and 1802-3, was occasioned by the concert which existed between the French, Zemaun Shah, and Tippoo Sultaun, from whence arose the apprehension of invasion by Zemaun Shah on the north-west frontier of Bengal, and the war with Tippoo Sultaun, which ended in 1799. The necessary consequence of these circumstances was an increase of the armies of Bengal and Madras, and an enhancement of the military charges of all the presidencies, by the addition of field allowances and expences.

In the year 1802-3 the charges are shewn to have decreased in a considerable amount (near a million). The war with the European enemies having ended in 1801, and peace existing with the Native powers of India, expectations were entertained that the expenditure of the year would have been reduced to a peace establishment; in which case a decrease of charge would have been exhibited in a much larger amount; but the charge of that year included part of the expences of the expedition to Egypt, and for the field charges of the Madras army for November, 1802, previously to the breaking out of the war with the Mahrattas in 1803-4, the effects of which are shewn in that and the three following years; although this war may be said to have ended in December, 1805, when a treaty of peace was concluded with Holkar. Notwithstanding the effect of the restoration of peace upon the continent of India is shewn in the reduction of the charges of 1807-8 and 1808-9, the amount in each of these years may be considered as still very high compared with the year 1802-3; but the cause of it is to be found, for the most part, in the permanent additions made to the military establishments since that period; both of his majesty's troops and of the company's; of the former seven regiments of foot, and of the latter twelve regiments of Native infantry, and three regiments of Native cavalry, the aggregate expence of which might be estimated at an amount exceeding a million sterling.

From the remarks which have been offered it is to be inferred that the increase of the military expenditure of India, between the years 1793-4 and 1808-9, is to be imputed to a combination of circumstances; to the new modelling of the army in 1796; to the increase of pay to Europeans and Natives; but principally to the additions which have been made to the establishments.

The object at present in view being merely to shew the effect produced upon the finances from the various measures adopted by the governments of India, either by orders from England, or, as might have been prescribed, by the circumstances of the times, it is not proposed to enter upon any consideration of the political grounds on which the military establishments were increased, but to state only the increase itself, to trace the periods when it was carried into effect, and to shew, with as much precision as the circumstances with which this immense expenditure is involved will permit, the several branches wherein the additional expence has taken place: as, from this view, some idea may be entertained of the part to be looked upon as a fixed annual charge upon the revenues of India. The disappointment in the receipt of a very material part of the documents for the year 1808-9, occasions the necessity of making this exhibition upon rather a general principle, and chiefly upon estimate.

The part of the increased annual charge to be considered as fixed in its nature, is that arising from the regulations of 1796, and from the additional established force. This has been shewn to be, three regiments of dragoons and 11 regiments of infantry of his majesty's forces, and of the company's, as follows; viz.

European artillery.—The increase was by the changes in the corps in 1796, 1798, and 1801; also, 29 companies of Lascars.

Native cavalry.—9 regiments and 1 troop.

Native infantry.—compared with its formation in 1796, which was nearly, as to numbers of rank and file, upon the basis of 1794, 33 regiments.

Pioneers.—1 battalion and 4 companies.

From the observations already made, it must be inferred that the military charges in each year of the column of the statement have been increased in a very considerable degree by the contingent or extraordinary expences of war. It would be extremely difficult, if practicable at this

time, to make a calculation of those expences. It is likewise to be inferred, that those charges have been gradually increased by the modifications of, or additions to the established force from time to time.

It having been proposed to trace the periods at which these additions were made, the advices from India, and the proceedings in England, have been attentively examined, and it is ascertained that they were carried into effect in the following years:

	His Majesty's. Regiments.		Company's. Regiments.	
	Dragoons.	Infantry.	Cavalry.	Infantry.
1796 - - -	2	3	- -	1
1797 - - -	- -	- -	1	4
1798 - - -	1	- -	- -	4
1799 - - -	- -	3	2	2
1800 - - -	- -	Decrease 3	3	9
1801 - - -	—	—	—	—
1802 - - -	1	2	- -	1
1803 - - -	- -	1	- -	2
1804 - - -	- -	2	1	10
1805 - - -	- -	2	2	—
1806 - - -	Decrease 1	Decrease 2	—	—
1807 - - -	- -	Decrease 2	—	—
1808 - - -	- -	5	—	—
Net increase - -	3	11	9	33

In the year 1798 the company's artillery was increased in numbers, and in 1801 by the addition of two companies to each battalion, in the whole twelve companies, and in the same years their European regiments, consisting of six, were reduced to three. The progressive effect of these additions on the amount of the military charges in each year, if it could be shewn with accuracy, is not material to the object immediately in view at this time, which is, to account for the great increase of expence between 1793-4 and 1808-9; that object will, therefore, be pursued, in order to bring the examination of this part of the accounts to a close.

It must have appeared evident, from the remarks and explanations in the preceding parts of this report, that considerable difficulty would exist in accounting, with precision and accuracy, for the component parts of the sum of 3,973,590*l.* stated to be the amount of the increase on the comparison now made, and that it can be only done upon estimate, the calculations of which must necessarily be framed on the computed annual expense of the additional regiments, and by adverting to the actual amount incurred in the year 1806-7, as stated in the book of establishments, with respect to the other charges, particularly those of a contingent nature. It must be admitted that an estimate drawn upon such principles is liable to objection, but being the only mode by which any explanation can be at present obtained upon this point, it is inserted in the appendix, and it is presumed to be as accurate a calculation as can be formed, when every circumstance respecting the state of the accounts is taken into consideration.

BUILDINGS AND FORTIFICATIONS.

This head was estimated in 1793, at - - - - - - - - - £117,875

From the remarks on the military charges it will have been observed that the view given of the expense of buildings and fortifications in 1808-9 is incomplete, from not including that incurred in the military department at Bengal. If the adjustment made on the examination of the military charges were now resorted to, the account would stand as follows:

Buildings and fortifications in 1808-9, as per statement, - - -	279,364
Add for the military part at Bengal - - - -	45,000
The total will then be - - - -	324,364
which exceeds the estimate in 1793 in the sum of - - - -	£206,489

The difficulty of giving with accuracy a prospective view of expenses of this description is obvious, as it depends so greatly upon contingent and casual circumstances. The calculation in the estimate was in part governed by the average of preceding years, and the experience of the first seven years of the actual accounts, 1792-3 to 1797-8 inclusive, afforded some proof of the accuracy of it, for on the average of those years the expense only proved to be 113,048*l.* al-

though in some of them the charge exceeded the estimate. On the inspection of these columns of the statement it will appear that, as the territories of the company increased, the expense of the erection and repairs of buildings and fortifications increased likewise; and here it is to be remarked that the charge under this head includes, in like manner with the military charges, the entire expenditure, whether on account of the company's ancient possessions, or of those acquired by cession or conquest. The increased expense in the Bengal column, during the several years from 1798-9 to 1803-4, is principally to be ascribed to repairs, &c. of buildings and fortifications in Oude, a part of which is provided for in the stipulations of the treaty of February, 1798; also to the erection of a new government-house at Calcutta, to the purchase of houses and grounds, and the making of new roads and avenues. As to the Madras column, the additional territories acquired by the conquest of Mysore, by the cession of the Carnatic by the nabob of Arcot, and of the districts by the Nizam, having greatly increased the number of fortresses, the necessity of maintaining and keeping them in repair will be found to have materially added to the expenses of this description under the Madras government. The great increase of charge after the year 1804-5, is to be ascribed to various circumstances; the improvement and repairs of the works at the fortress of Seringapatam; the building a new mint and custom-house, and a jail at Madras: the erection of barracks at several stations for the accommodation of the increased number of European troops; extensive repairs of the fortifications of the presidency, which had received very considerable damage by a storm in 1805; and other works of different descriptions, of which it may not be requisite, even if it were practicable, to give a minute detail. The increase of territory on the western side of India, under the administration of the Bombay government, being far less considerable than what has come under that of Madras, the additional expense attending the buildings and fortifications is likewise less. The increased charge exhibited in the years subsequent to 1802-3, is, in some degree, to be attributed to the effects of a fire at the presidency in February, 1803, by which very extensive damage was produced, and, in consequence, considerable expense incurred in the erecting of new barracks for the European regiments, and of other buildings. The extension of the Esplanade, the compensation to persons whose houses were removed, and the further strengthening the fortifications, have added to the charges.

It would lead to a very extensive detail to account minutely for the increase under this head of charge at each of the presidencies; but it may be proper to observe, that instructions have been given, from time to time, to keep it within every practicable limit.

CIVIL, &c. CHARGES.

The civil, revenue, judicial, and marine charges, as shewn in the general statement marked No. 6, are next to be examined. The total of charges incurred under these several heads on account of the company's ancient possessions was estimated in 1793 at - - - - - - - - - - - 2,126,950

On a comparison with the year 1806-7, in which their amount was - - - - - - - - - 3,725,381

an increase is exhibited of - £1,598,431

If the comparison could have been made with the year 1808-9, a different result would have been shewn, as the expenditure at Madras and Bombay in that year was less by 277,720*l*.

The view of this statement will shew, during the whole of the period, a general tendency to increased expense; and that, between 1793-4 and 1806-7, the increase accumulated to 1,312,836*l*. This increase would certainly have appeared less on a comparison with 1808-9, but it is deemed of importance to enter upon a detailed examination, in order to discover, as far as practicable, the real causes from which the expense of the civil administration or government of these possessions has been carried to its present large annual amount. It is, however, to be premised that, in some instances, the increased charge will be found to be imputable to alterations of system under which increased revenue has been produced; and, in others, to expensive measures which have been prescribed by the more extended political relations of the company in Asia.

In the course of this examination the presidencies will be taken separately, and every item of charge at each will undergo distinct consideration. To accomplish this purpose with greater facility, the supplementary statement marked C. has been placed in the Appendix, in addition to the General Statement.

It has been remarked that the year 1793-4 might be considered as a period of more particular importance, in consequence of alterations of system, and of arrangements carried into effect at the commencement of it. This remark will be found to apply most particularly to the Accounts of the Bengal Presidency. It is nevertheless deemed proper to consider this year as a period in which the attention should be directed to the situation of the other presidencies likewise. On these considerat ons, and as it is thought to be highly desirable to bring forward more distinct information upon this important branch of the enquiry, abstracts of the civil establishments of the

three presidencies as they stood in April, 1794, 1807 and 1808, have been called for, and are likewise added to the appendix.

The civil charges of the presidency of Bengal are shewn to have been estimated in the year 1793 to amount to -	L. 1,581,200
In the year 1806-7 they amounted to - - - - - - - - -	2,417,318
being an increase of - -	L. 836,118

In the year 1793 the civil charges of the general department was estimated in the gross at L. 403,000. Of this sum an adjustment has been made in the statement now under examination, in order to distinguish the several heads of charge, for the purpose of comparison with the estimate of them now made. The principle upon which the calculation of these charges was made at 403,000*l.* is said to be the average of the three past years. As the application of that principle to the charges of the mint might state them too low for the purpose of comparison, on account of a material alteration by a new coinage instituted in 1789, by which the establishment was increased, it is thought best upon this occasion, to take the sum estimated by the Bengal government in the year 1791-2 for the charges of the mint and assay offices as a point of comparison. The mint charges, as estimated in 1793, are therefore to be

taken at..............	L. 13,300
In 1806-7 the charge was.........	28,558
being an increase of	L. 5,238

The charges in the years 1807-8 and 1808-9 are stated at a larger amount, from including the mints at Benares and Furruckabad. This head of charge, from losses occasionally incurred by coinage, and from being exposed to contingencies dependent upon the quantity coined from year to year, must necessarily be fluctuating; and it is chiefly owing to this circumstance that the estimate in 1793, though governed in its calculation by that received from Bengal for the year 1791-2, appears to have given so inaccurate a view of the charge of the department, which in the year 1792-3 amounted to 33,600*l.* A part of this increase is to be attributed to a mint being included in the latter year for Moorshedabad, whereas the estimate of 1791-2 comprized only the three mints of Calcutta, Dacca, and Patna.

It may not be requisite to trace minutely the causes of the fluctuations which are annually shewn in this column of the statement, as the present and probable future expense of the mint and assay offices is the chief point for consideration. It may be remarked that this department has engaged particular attention both abroad and at home, and that measures have been resorted to, to render it completely efficient at the least expense practicable.

In the year 1792-3 there were four mints as already stated; at the present period the coinage is confined to one mint at Calcutta, it having been thought expedient to abolish the other three. In April, 1794, the annual expense of the fixed establishment of the four mints was, 14,652*l.* The fixed establishments of the mint and assay offices, on the 30th April, 1808, is stated at 16,702*l.*

There are at this time likewise establishments of mint offices at Benares and at Furruckabad, the profits and expenses of which are included in the accounts of the revenues and charges of Benares, and of the ceded provinces of Oude.

POST OFFICE CHARGES.

These charges were likewise separated from the gross amount of the civil charges, but they were taken upon the calculation of the average of five years, and estimated

for the year 1793 at............	*l.* 14,800
They amounted in the year 1808-9 to	31,690
being an increase of............	*l.* 16,890

The increase of receipts, produced by regulations of this department in 1798 and 1801, has been adverted to. The greater facilities in the conveyance of letters could not be obtained without an increase in the means, by additions to the dawk establishments both on the regular and the cross roads. The increase in the extent of the company's territories has necessarily added to this useful branch of the establishments, as will appear by the statement from the year 1801-2. The expenses are increased by contingent charges. The established charge in 1794 was 18,220*l.* and in 1808, 20,686*l.* It is, however, satisfactory to observe that, notwithstanding the increase of charge which is exhibited on the comparison with the estimate made in the year 1793, the regulations which have been passed for the management of the post office, have been productive of advantage, a surplus charge having been estimated in the year 1793 whereas, from the year 1799-1800, the post office collections have uniformly exceeded the expenses, and, in the year 1808-9, were more by 3,110*l.* shewing a net difference of 7,710*l.* in the result of the comparison.

CHARGES OF THE RESIDENCY OF BENARES.

Estimated in the year 1793 at..	*l.* 32,700
Amounted in the year 1806-7 to..	140,732
being an increase of	*l.* 108,032

The charges of this residency were blended with the general civil charges in the estimate of 1793, and the calculation

of their amount rather exceeded the Bengal estimate of 1791-2. The alteration of the circumstances of this district and residency has been noticed under the revenues. The agreement with the rajah on the 27th of October, 1794, and the regulations passed in March, 1795, have likewise been adverted to. The introduction of the modes of administration practised in the lower provinces has occasioned an increase of expense, but the great additional charge, since the year 1800-1, is more to be attributed to the alteration in the mode of keeping the accounts, than to a positive increase of expence; and it will be found, from an increase of revenue in a greater amount, that, in point of fact, on an average of seven years from 1800-1 to 1806-7, the net sum realized from the district exceeded both the estimate of 1793 and the actual accounts of the year 1792-3. The general principle of this alteration was to bring to account the whole receipt and expenditure of the Moolky or provincial treasury, subjecting them to the same rules as the other revenue accounts. In this case, the receipt under the head of surplus collections, and the payment of the allowance to the rajah under the agreement of 1794, with every other disbursement, are stated on both sides of the account. In the latter years both receipt and expenditure are still further enhanced by an alteration in the mode of collection by tehfildars or native collectors, who, instead of remunerating or paying themselves by the deduction of a per-centage from the collections, are in future to receive a personal allowance from the collector, and the gross revenue is to be paid into the treasury. A considerable saving is expected ultimately to arise from this measure, and of course an addition to the net revenue.

It is to be remarked that the charges include every disbursement of the district, revenue, judicial, and relating to the mint and customs.

Civil charges in general, termed in the parliamentary accounts, No. 2. "Other charges of the civil establishment." They comprise the whole of the fixed and contingent expenses of the civil department general which are not stated in the other heads of the account; as the pay and allowances of the members of government, the secretaries, accountants, and several other offices, the durbar charges, &c. &c.

In consequence of the adjustment noted under the head of mint charges, this head of charge is to be stated as estimated in the year 1793 at .... *l.* 258,800

In the year 1806-7 it amounted to 575,856

being an increase of .... *l.* 317,056

This head of disbursement is liable to be affected by a variety of contingencies. The durbar charges, from including the political expenses incurred by embassies to or from the several powers of Asia, must necessarily be ever fluctuating. On the view of this column of the statement it will appear that, from the year 1792-3 to 1798-9, with the exception of 1795-6, these charges continued at an amount so steady as to call for no particular remark. The large amount in that year is to be attributed partly to extraordinary or temporary circumstances: a payment to the acting governor-general; a remuneration ordered by the court of directors to the late accountant general; and the expence of the public press. After the year 1798-9 the extension of the political relations of the company, and other circumstances, led to a large increase of expense on the established residencies at the courts of the native princes, and for temporary embassies: by which the durbar charges were enhanced in a very material degree. The very large expence in the years 1805-6 is, in addition to these circumstances, to be attributed to the charge incurred in an attempt to establish a settlement at Balambangan. The institution of a College at Calcutta in the year 1800, has likewise added to the expenses after that period.

It appears by the statement that after the year 1805-6 the civil charges were very considerably reduced, the government-general having made considerable retrenchments of established as well as temporary expenditure. In considering the excess under this head, on a comparison with the amount at which it was estimated in 1793, or what was actually incurred in the year 1793-4, which, upon this occasion, may be considered as a more proper period of comparison, the difference of the circumstances of the times must not be lost sight of, and particularly the very great extension of the business of the secretary's and other departments from the increase of territory. The extended political relations of the company may probably keep the Durbar charges at an amount exceeding that which was required in former times. This column is not filled up for the years 1807-8 and 1808-9, as the want of the detail of the Bengal statements for those years prevented the accounts from being drawn up, as to the various items, with sufficient precision for groundng a comparison with other years.

Charges of the Judicial Department.

This head comprizes the expence of the supreme court, with the law charges of the company; also the expenses of the administration of justice in the several adawluts or native courts of the provinces of Bengal, Bahar and Orissa; the expences of this description for Oude, Benares, and the conquered districts being included under those heads respectively.

At the time the estimate of the year 1793 was framed, the judicial system had not been instituted, consequently the law expenses, and those of the supreme court of judicature, could alone be introduced into that estimate. They were included in the amount taken for the civil charges generally, and are calculated at the sum of.............................. 57,600

Their amount in the year 1806-7 was.............................. 57,652

exceeding the estimate in the sum of.............................. L. 52

This head of charge comprizes the salaries and allowances of the judges and the officers with the other expences of the supreme court of judicature; also the salaries of the company's law officers, and the expenses incurred by legal processes; likewise of the court of requests, &c. The expense under this head is subject to fluctuation, from being exposed to contingencies. Great attention has been paid to keep the established charge within the narrowest limits practicable: the establishment of the supreme court was revised with much care in the year 1798, and considerable reductions in the expence were effected. The expence in the year 1794, although there was then a vacancy of one judge, is stated at 40,982*l.*; in 1807 it was 39,975*l.*; but the latter period includes the sum of 4,070*l.* for pensions, which were not in the former. The charge of the court of requests, which in 1794 was 780*l.* amounted in 1807 to 7,827*l.* but this expence is merely nominal, being more than covered by the receipts from fees, which were instituted on suits when the alterations were made in the establishment of that court, under proclamation, dated 15th March, 1802.

The part of the charges of the judicial department which is incurred by the administration of justice in the provinces is next to be noticed. In the accounts presented to parliament it is termed "charges of the Dewanny and Nizamut City and Zillah adawluts, also of the police establishments and courts of appeal."

It has been already remarked that the charges now under consideration apply only to the provinces of Bengal, Bahar, and Orissa, and the reason has been assigned why no estimate could be made of them by the Court of Directors in February, 1793.

It is not proposed in this place to enter upon any explanation of the grounds on which alterations were made in the system of the administration of justice in these districts, but merely to state the fact that such alterations were made, and to examine what additional expense has been produced by them.

The whole of the grounds for the adoption of the new system is to be found in the minute of the late marquis Cornwallis, dated 11th February, 1793, and the detail of the several arrangements on the execution of it in the Bengal regulations passed, in the year 1793, their operation being directed to commence on the 1st May of that year. The modifications and alterations which have been occasionally made by subsequent regulations, will, in so far as they apply to expense, be adverted to as occasion may require.

Antecedent to the year 1793 the collection of the revenues and the administration of justice were under the superintendance of the revenue department, and the expense attending them respectively were included under one head of charge; viz. the revenue charge. The actual expense defrayed upon these accounts in the year 1792-3 was 782,244. The general principle of the alteration of the system, as proposed in the minute of the governor-general, went to an entire separation of justice, which led to the creation of a new department, termed the judicial, the receipts and charges of which were to be stated under a separate and distinct head. It was calculated that the expense of the proposed new establishment, in so far as related to the sudder or chief, and other adawluts or native courts of justice, would amount annually to the sum of 220,515*l.* that reductions would then be made upon the existing establishments of the revenue department to the amount of 173,400*l.* so that the whole increase of expense under this branch would be only 47,215*l.*

The internal police, or the preservation of the peace of the districts, was, till December, 1792, under the farmers and landholders, who were bound to keep establishments of officers for that purpose. By a regulation passed the 7th of that month, the police was taken under the exclusive charge of officers appointed by government, and a fund established for defraying the expense. This regulation was re-enacted on the 1st May, 1793, and a further regulation was passed at the same time for raising a fund to meet the charge of the new police establishments, by an assessment termed the police tax.

The police is to be considered as another branch of the new system, and the expence of it forms part of the charges. It does not appear that an exact estimate was made of the charges of its establishment; but it seems to have been considered that the assessment upon the districts was to be made to such an amount as should meet those charges.

It has been observed, that the revenue charges of the year 1792-3, which included the expence attending the administration of justice, amounted to 782,744*l.* Previously to the examination of the revenue and judicial departments after their sepa-

ration, it may not be improper to consider their combined amount in the first year, viz. 1793-4, as it will shew how far the estimate, on making the separation, was verified; and as that year will be now taken for the period from which the operation of the system financially will be investigated.

In 1793-4 the revenue charges amounted to	l.569,293
And the judicial to	314,766
making together	884,059
This exceeds the year 1792-3 in the sum of	L.101,315
As it was estimated that the extraordinary expence of the new system would amount to..	47,215
the sum to be accounted for will be	54,100
The charges of the police were expected to be defrayed by a special tax raised for the purpose, but they exceeded the tax in the sum of - - - - - - - 21,935	
Two Zillah courts were instituted after the estimate was made, the expense of which was - 8,472	
	30,407
Which will reduce the sum to be accounted for to	L. 23,693

It may not be necessary upon this occasion to trace more minutely the various contingencies which were the causes of this difference. The following fact appears clearly established, viz. that the disbursement of the year, 1793-4 exceeded that of the preceding year in the sum of - - - - - - - - - 101,315l.

And that, deducting the sum raised as a police tax - - -	25,801
The aggregate expense of the two departments, in the first year of the new system, exceeded the expense of the former system in the sum of	75,514

which is more than the excess first calculated by 28,299l.;—but from this sum should be deducted some retrenchments in the salt department. Confining this view of the subject to the judicial branch, which is now the immediate object of investigation, it will be proper to examine the expense actually disbursed in the first year of its separation from the revenue branch on a comparison with the estimate made previously to the adoption of the measure.

The expense of the new Adawlut establishment was estimated at - - - - - - - - - -	L.220,515
The judicial charges of the year 1793-4 were - - - - - -	314,766
Exceeding the estimate by - -	94,251

It is to be remarked that the estimate included only the charge of the Sudder, the city, and zillah or provincial Adawluts. The actual charge comprised two zillah Adawluts more than the estimate and contingencies of which it was not practicable to make an accurate calculation. The net excess or actual disbursement, compared with the several heads in the estimate amounts to 12,110l.; the charges of the police at Calcutta, and in the provinces, amounting to 59,480l., were not included in the estimate, nor the contingent expenses for maintenance of prisoners, nor a commission (though then existing) for suppressing decoits or robbers, with other items amounting together to 21,770l., which several sums will be found nearly to account for the difference exhibited in the actual disbursements of the first year of the operation of the new system of judicature in the provinces.

Taking, as proposed, the year 1793-4 as the period of comparison, it will appear that, deducting the sum of 314,766l. from 482,653l. the amount of the judicial charges in the year 1806-7, the increase amounts to 167,887l.

The inspection of the column of the statement will shew that the judicial charges in every year have exceeded those of the first year of the institution of the system; but it is found, upon a minute examination, that the increased charge is more to be ascribed to contingent expenses than to additional establishments, or increase of allowances to the European servants employed in this department.

The number of courts originally established was as follows:

Sudder Dewanny or chief court, being the court of appeal in the last resort of civil suits.

Four provincial courts of appeal.

Three city Adawluts.

Twenty-three zillah courts.

According to the book of establishments in April, 1808, the number of courts was the same, except as to the Zillah, which, by the abolition of those at Moorshedabad and Cooch Behar, and the institution of others at Backergunge, Hooghly, and in the Jungle Mehals, were increased to twenty-four.

Notwithstanding the net increase in the number of courts, is found to be only one zillah court, the established expense of the department between 1794 and 1808 is very considerably increased. On the 30th April, 1794, by the book of establishments,

The charge amounted to	268,172
On the 30th April, 1808, it was	394,945
Being an increase of	L.225,773

Of this sum 14,486l. is in the establishment of the court of the Sudder Dewanny and Nizamut Adawlut, in consequence of alterations made in the year 1801. One senior and two puisne judges were at first appointed, but in 1808 the senior judge was discontinued. The net increase of expense by the three additional Zillah courts, after deducting that of the two which were abolished, is 22,235l. The charge of the provincial battalions in 1808, stated at 52,947l. was not incurred in 1794; nor was any sum included in that year for contingencies or police. The former amounted in 1808 to 52,589l. and the latter to 65,631l. exclusive of the charge on those accounts in the new adawluts. These several sums will account for the difference between the two periods within 17,800l. On the inspection of the detail of the accounts of the respective courts, many variations in the charges are discovered, both as to increase and decrease; a material part of the increase is found in the appointment of assistants to the registers almost generally, and in some instances in additions to the native establishments. As to the judges, their salaries have undergone very little alteration; the salary of the judge at Burdwan was reduced in the sum of 788l. after the transfer of a part of his jurisdiction, when the court at Hooghly was instituted in 1795, and the salaries of the judges at Sylhet and Ramghur were increased in the sum of 696l. each, as they were much below the general scale of those of the judges of the other districts.

The explanations now given afford a general idea of the changes which have occurred in the fixed establishments, within the period under review: the fluctuations of the amount of the charges in the several years, as shewn in the column of the statement, are to be attributed to contingent expenses, which must naturally be expected in the administration of civil and criminal justice in such a number of districts, and particularly to the charge for the diet of prisoners.

MARINE CHARGES,

Estimated in the year 1793 at	51,000
Amounted in the year 1808-9 to	75,082
Being an increase of	L.21,082

The estimate of the year 1793 was calculated rather above the average of the three preceding years. From the nature of the marine service it is subject to many contingencies which are of a casual and fluctuating description. The inspection of this column does not furnish any particular ground of remark. The department has undergone some alteration in management since the year 1793. In the year 1795, in consequence of an examination of the state of it, a secretary, with an official establishment was appointed. In the year 1807 the court of directors entered upon a minute consideration of the state of the marine establishments, and, by their letter of the 13th May, forwarded instructions for the future conduct of the department, which it is expected will occasion material improvements therein, by providing better accommodation for ships navigating the river as to pilotage, watering, &c. and affording a prospect at the same time of lessening the expenses, by rates on the tonnage of the ships.

REVENUE CHARGES.

Including stipends and allowances of the Nizamut, or the payments made to the Nabob of Bengal, his family, and dependants. The observations already made on the charges of the judicial department, will, it is presumed, have given the requisite explanations of the arrangements in Bengal in the year 1793, by which an entire separation was made of the revenue and judicial management. From those observations it will have been inferred, that the estimate framed in 1793 may not be taken as a criterion by which an accurate judgment can be formed of the increased charge since that period, and that the expence of the year 1793-4 will be the most proper to be assumed as the ground of the comparison with that of the later years in the column of the statement. It may not, however, be improper to advert, upon the present occasion, to the actual charge of 1792-3, the year immediately preceding the separation of the departments, in order to give some view of the principle of the charge of the year 1793-4. The gross expence of 1792-3 was 782,744

It was calculated that the institution of the judicial system would immediately occasion a deduction in the expence of the old revenue establishments to the amount of	173,300
On this principle, the revenue charges to be incurred in future would be stated at the sum of	609,444
The actual expences of the year 1793-4 were	569,293
which is less than the charge above stated by	40,151

from which it is to be concluded, that reductions were carried into effect to a greater amount than was reckoned upon, or stated in the original estimate, at the time of the separation of the Adawluts.

As the revenue charges of Benares are blended with those of the other provinces in 1807-8 and 1808-9, it is necessary to compare the charge of the year 1806-7 amounting to L. 516,340

with that of the year 1793-4, which has been shewn to amount to 569,932

In which view the charge of 1806-7 will be found to be less in the sum of - - - - - L. 52,953

It is to be remarked, that the charge in both periods includes the stipends and allowances of the Nizamut; if they were deducted, the expence attending the collection of the revenues would stand as follows:

1793-4.

Gross charge - -	569,293	
Stipends, &c. -	220,406	
Net charge - - - -		L. 348,887

1806-7.

Gross charge -	L. 516,340	
Stipends, &c. -	228,130	
Net charge - - - -		L. 288,210

Consequently the actual expence incurred in the collection of the revenues of Bengal will appear to have decreased in the sum of - - - - - - - L. 60,677

The average of the gross charge for the 13 years, 1794-5 to 1806-7 inclusive, is - - - L. 507,000

Assuming the average of the stipends at - - - - - - 220,000

the average of the net charge in the same period is - - - L. 287,000

which is less than the net charge of 1793-4 by - - - - - L. 61,887

The near accordance of the amount of the charges of the year 1806-7 with the amount of the average now shewn, is a remarkable proof of the steadiness of the system upon which the revenues of these valuable provinces have been managed. It may not be material to trace with minuteness the causes to which the decrease here exhibited is to be ascribed; a part is in the contingent or extraordinary charges, and a part in the fixed establishments. Of the latter are the collectorships of Calcutta, Tumlook and Ramgur, and the commission to Cooch Behar, which have been abolished; likewise the reduction of the members of the board of revenue from four to three, and retrenchments in the offices at the presidency.

Customs.

The charges of collecting them were estimated in the year 1793 at - - - - - - - - - - L. 12,500

The comparison, in this instance, must be made with the charge of the year 1806-7, as in the subsequent years, that of the ceded and conquered provinces is not separated. The amount in that year was - - - - - - - - - 27,399

being an increase of - - - - L. 14,899

The estimate of 1793 is stated to have been calculated on the average of the charge of the three preceding years. The observations on the receipts will have anticipated the explanation to be given of the small amount at which these charges were estimated, viz. the existence of custom-houses at only two stations, Calcutta and Manjee; the transfer of the management of the customs to the commercial department; and the various alterations by the levy of new duties; with the re-establishment of the town duties, and of custom-houses at the principal cities; which having been fully stated in those observations, it is only necessary, in this place, to refer to them as the explanation of the cause of the increase in the charge as now exhibited.

Salt; Advances and Charges.

estimated in 1793 at - - - - L. 295,000
amounted in the year 1808-9 to - 406,000

being an increase of - - - - L. 111,000

This head is composed partly of allowances to the persons employed in the department, partly of contingencies, but principally of advances to the manufacturers, which are accounted for in the delivery of the article. The estimate of 1793 was taken at a medium between the average actual disbursement of the three preceding years, and the estimate made in Bengal for the year 1791-2. The transfer of the management of the salt department from the board of revenue to the board of trade, in the year 1793, has been mentioned in the observations upon the receipts. The conduct of the concern before this period was by a comptroller with assistants; and the provision and manufacture of the salt was under the direction of agents in the several Aurungs or districts, who made advances to the manufacturers, and attended to the due delivery of the proper quantities. When the alteration was made, the office of comptroller was abolished, and a new form of establishment was carried into effect. A salt office, with a secretary and assistants, was established at the presidency, but the system of making the provision by advances, through the medium of agents, was continued. The salt agencies were then as follows:

Chittagong, including Bulwa,
Hidgellee,
Roymungul,
Tumlook,
Twenty-four Pergunnahs.

The agents were remunerated as before, for their services, by a commission upon the net profit upon the article when sold: a share of commission was also given to the secretary of the salt office.

The year 1793-4, being the first year of the management by the board of trade, may perhaps be the more proper period of comparison upon the present occasion.

In that year the amount of the advances and charges was	l. 328,483
In the year 1808-9, they were	406,000
and the increase in the latter period is - - - - - - -	l. 77,517

The increase of the quantity manufactured, and the enhancement of the sale price, have been noticed in the former part of this report. They are now adverted to for the purpose of introducing the remark that the amount of the expenditure is necessarily governed by those circumstances; the advances being in proportion to the quantity provided, and the amount of the commission on the sales being regulated by the prices at which the article sold. The established charges of the factories are matters for separate consideration, as well as the contingent expenses in connection with them.

The system of management under the board of trade has been shewn to produce very material improvements in this branch of the resources. The increased net receipt, or profit, in the period now under consideration, is, 444,000*l.* and has been produced under the very satisfactory circumstance of the melioration of the situation of the manufacturers, who were not only relieved from compulsory labour, but were allowed an additional price for the article produced by them.

Several alterations in the plan of management have been carried into effect. Additional guards against illicit trade have been introduced, by the establishment of chokies, or custom-houses, in the eastern, western, and midland districts, with a superintendant and assistants to each, which have considerably added to the established expenses. On the other hand, retrenchments have been made by abolishing the agency at Roymungul, and attaching it to the 24 pergunnahs, also by reducing the commission to the agents of Hidgellee, the 24 pergunnahs, and Tumlook, from three, to 2 and a quarter per cent. Referring to the abstracts of the establishments of the Bengal presidency in 1794 and 1808, it appears that the charges of the salt department have increased in the sum of 59,000*l.* of which 10,000*l.* is in the commission paid to the agents, and 49,000*l.* in the charges at the factories for allowances to Europeans and natives, and contingencies. These charges comprize the newly established chokies, or custom-houses, to the amount of 23,000*l.*

It is not practicable to make a separation of the advances for the manufacture, and of the charges, for the year 1808-9; but assuming the sum of 59,000*l.* as the increased charge, and deducting that sum from the gross increase, which has been stated at 77,517*l.* the proportion to be shewn as the additional advance might be taken at 18,000*l.* This computation must, however, be considered as rather vague.

Opium; advances and charges,

Estimated in 1793 at - - -	l. 97,500
amounted in the year 1808-9 to	100,920
being an increase of - - -	l. 3,420

The management of the trade in this article, and the provision of it, are in some degree similar to that of salt, and the estimate of the advances and charges was calculated upon similar grounds; viz. a medium between the average of the three preceding years actual disbursements, and the estimate of 1791-2. At the time this estimate was formed, the conduct of the provision of opium was under the direction of an officer of the revenue department, designated preparer of reports, and superintendant of the opium sales. His duty, in the latter capacity, consisted in receiving the opium annually from the public contractors; having it examined by the usual inspectors; exposing to sale; and adjusting the accounts.

The alteration made in the year 1793, transferring the opium concern from the revenue to the commercial department, and the change of system adopted by the board of trade in the year 1797, by the substitution of provision by agency in lieu of that by contract, has been detailed in the observations upon the produce of the sales. It is therefore, upon the present occasion, requisite only to notice that, at the time of the transfer, the office of superintendant of opium was abolished; the expense of the arrangement adopted by the board of trade for the conduct of this concern, is not stated in the book of establishments. By the advices it appears that in 1793 a form of establishment was proposed by them to the supreme council, on whose approval it was carried into effect, and, with some small alteration, continued in operation during the existence of the contracts, viz. to the year 1797. On the institution of the agency system in that year the whole establishment was reformed, and the rate of allowances and commission to the secretary and agents was fixed. The concern is still conducted under the board of trade by a secretary at the presidency, and by agents in Bahar, and at Benares, the entire expense of whose several appointments and offices, according to the abstract of the establishments in 1808 may be taken at about 32,000*l.* per annum, including the commission. The advantages of the system of agency are evident in the columns of the statements, although the fixed expenses in allowances are much greater than under the former system. On the average of six years, 1792-3 to 1797-8, when the contract system may be supposed to have entirely ceased, the average

charge was 131,000*l.* the produce of the sales 260,000*l.* and the average net receipt 129,000*l.* It is, however, to be remarked that the great increase of charge in the year 1797-8 is to be imputed, in some degree, to an advance not properly belonging to the year. In 1798-9, the advances and charges amounted to 97,795*l.* but the markets being unfavourable, the sales only produced 210,000*l.* leaving a profit of 112,000*l.* In the year 1799-1800 the charge was nearly the same as the preceding year, but the net profit was 274,000*l.* and an increased improvement is exhibited through the nine following years of the statements, the average of the advances and charges of those years being about 93,000*l.* and, from increase in price, to be imputed principally to the improvement in the quality of the article, the average net profit for the same period is 466,000*l.* This is the more satisfactory, as the average expenditure on the nine years is below the estimate of 1793, and falls short of the average of the first six years in the statement by the sum of 38,000*l.* It should have been remarked that in April, 1801, retrenchments were carried into effect. The salary of the Bahar agent was reduced from 2,000 to 500 sicca rupees per month, the salary of the Benares agent was wholly abolished, and the commission to both the agents was reduced from 2½ to 2 per cent.

STAMPS.

As this resource was instituted in the year 1797 only, it did not appear in the estimate of 1793. In several years the charges appear at a low amount, from not including commission paid on the issue of stamps. The increased expense in the four last years is to be accounted for from the circumstances of both commission and establishment being included in it. The receipt in those years, being the gross produce, is likewise larger.

MADRAS CHARGES.

The expenses of the Madras presidency are next for examination. Those of the civil and revenue departments, connected more immediately with the company's ancient possessions, as under the presidency of Bengal, are to be found in detail in the separate statement marked C.

The total charge, upon this principle, was estimated in the year 1793 at......	*l.* 368,000
and amounted in the year 1808-9 to..................	660,071
being an increase of........	*l.* 292,071

This increase is very considerable; it will be found to have arisen, in a material degree, from the introduction of the Bengal system of revenue and judicial administration into the districts of the Peninsula, as will be more particularly explained in the examination of the several items.

The charges of the post-office were not separated from the civil charges in the estimate of the year 1793. Referring to the accounts from Madras about that period, and taking the medium of the actual disbursements of 1791-2, and the estimate of 1792-3, the expense under this head might be computed at 9,240l. which, deducted from the civil charges, would reduce the estimate of them to 102,760l.

Assuming the computed expense of the post-office at - - - - - - -	9,240
As the actual charge of the same in the year 1808-9, amounted to - - - - - - - - - - -	19,926
An increase will be exhibited under this head to the amount of	10,686

If the comparison were made with the year 1792-3, as in the post-office revenues, an increase of charge would be exhibited in the sum of 11,579l.

According to the book of establishments the expense in 1794 was - - - - - - - - - -	8,560
And in 1808, - - - - - - - -	18,414
Being an increase of - - - -	*L.* 9,854

The disbursements include contingencies of a casual description which are not stated in the book of establishments. Of the increase 1,718l. is to be ascribed to an addition to the allowance of the postmaster-general, and to the revival of the office of deputy; the remainder is in the inferior branches of the establishment, from the necessity of fixing, from time to time, new posts, in consequence of the great extension of the territories on the Peninsula. With respect to a part of the period in the statement, it is to be observed that war has been the means of occasionally adding to the expense, as the tappals, or runners, found more difficulties in pursuing their routes. In the year 1792-3, the receipts exceeded the charges by 3,000l. but in the year 1808-9, the charge was greater in the same amount. The prospect is however held forth, in the estimate for 1809-10, that the expenses under this head will be more than covered by the receipts, which is to be ascribed to regulations recently made.

THE CIVIL CHARGES,

Were estimated in 1793 at - -	112,000
But excluding the post-office, for reasons given in the observations upon that head the amount will be - - - - - - - - -	102,760
In the year 1808-9 they amounted to - - - - - - - - -	103,807
Being an increase of - - - -	*L.* 1,047

The civil charges include the salaries and allowances of the members of government, and of the several offices at the presidency, with the contingent expenses of the same, viz. the secretary's, accountant-general's, &c. and are exclusive of those of the judicial and revenue departments, which are shewn in distinct columns.

Referring to this column of the statement it will appear, notwithstanding the small difference shewn upon this comparison, that, compared with several of the years immediately subsequent to 1793, the estimate was taken upon rather too low a scale, although in the year 1796-7 the charge disbursed fell short of that amount. As the charges in the statement are those actually disbursed, the average may form the best criterion for directing the judgment in this case. Upon this principle it will appear that, on the average of the first seven years, to 1798-9, the charge amounted to 120,000l.; and on the nine years, 1799-1800 to 1807-8, to 123,000l. The expense of the year 1808-9 was nearly 20,000l. below that amount, and less than the year immediately preceding by nearly 38,000l. Considerable retrenchments are stated to have been made in the year 1808, the general effect of which are shewn in the disbursement of the year last referred to.

It must have been remarked that in some years the charges are much greater than in others, but as, on the general average, the excess beyond the estimate of 1793 is not in a very considerable sum, and as they appear to have been reduced in the last year to an amount but little exceeding that estimate, and below the two averages which have been shewn, no further observation in this place appears requisite, further than in explanation of the very material difference which exists between the amount in the column of the statement now under consideration, and what is stated apparently under the same head in the abstract of the establishment books, in which the fixed expense for 1808 is more than the charge disbursed in 1808-9, by 194,000l. It is not practicable to explain this difference with minute detail, but it is generally to be ascribed to the circumstance of the expense in the establishment book including a number of articles, which, in the disbursements, are thrown under the distinct heads to which they respectively belong. The stipends to the family of Tippoo, to the amount of 80,000l. is one of the articles alluded to; expenses in Mysore, and of the post office, are others.

Judicial.

These charges are not distinctly stated in the accounts presented to Parliament. In those accounts they are blended with the civil charges in general, and include such as appertain to the judicial administration of the ceded and conquered districts.

The separation has been made for the purpose of a more minute examination, upon the principles explained in the former part of this report. The sum shewn in this column relates to the ancient possessions, and includes the charges attending the administration of justice in the European courts, which in the four first years comprised only the mayor's court and the court of requests. In the years 1796-7 and 1797-8 they were increased by the grant of salaries to the justices of the peace at Madras, the expense of some inferior courts at the subordinate settlements, and the allowances of the company's law officers. The charges of the year 1798-9 were affected by an alteration in the principle of the administration of justice in these courts at the presidency, by the institution of a recorder's court, under the act of the 37th George 3d. cap. 142, passed the 20th July, 1797, intituled, "an act for the better administration of justice at Calcutta, Madras, and Bombay, &c." This institution was rendered void by the act of the 39th and 40th, cap. 79, passed the 28th July, 1800, intituled "an act for establishing further regulations for the government of the British territories in India, and the better administration of justice within the same." Under this act his Majesty was empowered to establish a supreme court of judicature at Madras, consisting of the like number of persons as the supreme court at Fort-William. The expenses of this court fall upon the accounts from the year 1801-2. In the remarks upon the revenues it has been shewn that the first introduction of the judicial system in practice in the provinces under the Bengal government into the territories under the administration of the government of Madras, was in consequence of instructions for that purpose in the years 1799 and 1800. Although some courts were instituted in part of the conquered districts in the year 1800-1, no charge appears to have been stated in this column for the new zillah or provincial courts till the year 1802-3, from which period the carrying the system into complete effect has added to the expense till the year 1806-7, when the total charge amounted to 225,9[illegible]0l. In 1807-8 it was 11,000l. less, and in 1808-9 it was reduced to 193,978l. The great expense of these establishments has drawn the particular attention of the government of Madras, who have been very active in adopting measures of retrenchment. The success of those measures is apparent in the two last years of the statement, and a prospect exists that further reductions will be effected in this expenditure, not only as it is shewn in this column, but as it is incurred in the ceded

and conquered districts. It should, however, be remarked, that the expense here stated is not in the whole strictly chargeable to this head. As the jurisdiction of the sudder or chief court at the presidency, and of the courts of circuit, extends to the whole of the districts, a proportion of the charges of those courts belongs to the ceded and conquered provinces. The expense only of the zillah courts within those districts has been charged to them. It would have rendered the statement more accurate if it had been practicable to shew distinctly the expenses under those separate heads.

The revenue charges, or the expences of collecting the revenues and customs of the ancient possessions under the Madras government, were estimated, in the year 1793, at - - - - - - L. 256,000
In the year 1808-9 they amounted to - - - - - - - - - 333,024

being an increase of - - - L. 77,024

The calculation of the estimate in the year 1793 appears to have been, in some degree, governed by the estimate of the year 1791-2. It was, however, less than that estimate by 11,000*l*. At that period, the revenue system at Madras was materially different from what it is at the present time. The introduction of the permanent settlement into these districts, to which the greatest change is to be ascribed, has already been adverted to; it is however proper, upon this occasion, to remark that, antecedent to the carrying the principles of the permanent settlement into effect, the revenue administration of the most considerable part was altered by the abolition of the chiefships of Masulipatam and Vizagapatam, and the residency of Ganjam, and the separation of the lands under their respective superintendency into nine divisions, with a collector to each; viz. Masulipatam four, Vizagapatam three, Ganjam one, and Guntoor one. This arrangement was advised by letter dated 23d November, 1794. On the three years previous to it the average charge was below the estimate in 1793 in the sum of 22,000*l*. On the average of the next seven years, 1795-6 to 1801-2 inclusive, the charge was 347,000*l*. After that period the permanent settlement was gradually introduced, and the average charge of the next seven years, 1802-3 to 1808-9, was 396,000*l*. Notwithstanding the expectation, that the separation of the judicial department would be the means of reducing the expences of the revenue department, if the latter average were taken on the six years, the amount would be 406,000*l*. Retrenchments are reported to have been made in the years 1807 and 1808 to which the reduced charge in the year 1808-9 may be principally ascribed.

It is to be remarked, that this head of charge includes the payment to the Nizam of a peishcush or annual tribute for the northern circars, amounting to 60,000*l*. The extraordinary amount of the charge of the year 1806-7 arises from the payment of the Peishcush for two years and a half. The charges, as actually disbursed, considerably exceed the amount in the abstract of the establishments, as the latter do not include the Peishcush for the Circars, the salt advances, and sundry other contingent and extraordinary expences.

Dutch Settlements.

The charges under this head were first brought into the accounts in the year 1796-7, although the settlements were obtained by conquest in the year preceding. Other expences in the military department were incurred upon this account to a very considerable amount, and principally included in the military charges of the Madras presidency from 1795-6 to 1801-2. The charges stated in this column for the same period, are chiefly the civil expences of Ceylon, the eastern islands, and Malacca.

In December, 1801, Ceylon ceased to be under the government of the company, as stated in the remarks upon the receipts. The great amount of the charge in the years 1802-3 to 1805-6 arises from an alteration in the mode of stating the account, by including the whole of the military charges disbursed on account of the eastern islands. These islands having been surrendered to the Dutch in consequence of the peace of Amiens, and Malacca in part abandoned, the charge in the two last years is mostly on account of the chank and pearl fishery at Tutacorin.

With respect to the charges stated in this column, and to those which were included in the military charges as above adverted to, it is to be observed, that an account has been drawn out, comprizing not only those charges respectively, but every advance and disbursement made by the East India company on account of the capture and maintenance of these settlements, the amount of which has been brought forward as a claim upon the public, in conformity with the principles on which the several expeditions against them were undertaken; and having been submitted to Parliament, and undergone the examination of committees in the sessions of 1805 and 1808, sums have been voted, on the reports of those committees, to the East India company, on account thereof.

Bombay Charges.

The civil, marine, and revenue charges of the presidency of Bombay, exclusive of the charge of the ceded and conquered districts, are now to be examined.

In 1793 they were estimated at	L. 177,750
In 1808-9 they amounted to - -	370,572
being an increase of - - - -	L. 192,522

THE CIVIL CHARGES

were estimated, in 1793, at -	L. 90,000
and amounted, in 1808-9, to -	106,751
being an increase of - - - -	L. 16,751

The estimate of the year 1793 was calculated on the average expence of the five preceding years. The average of the five years, 1792-3 to 1796-7, exceeded this estimate in the sum of 14,000*l.* The expence in the year 1808-9 being only 2,500*l.* more than the average last adverted to, it does not appear necessary to enter largely upon explanations of the detail of the difference which has been exhibited; and it may suffice to remark, that this column includes the charges of the judicial department, and of the post-office and mint, and that the institution of a recorder's court at the presidency in the year 1798-9, the introduction of judicial arrangements, and the change of the mode of administration at Surat, are generally to be referred to as the causes of the increase which has been shewn. It may, however, be proper to observe, respecting those years in this column in which the expences have very far exceeded both the averages above shewn, and the charge of the year 1808-9, that it is not practicable at the present time, to trace with precision the causes of the excesses. They appear to have been various, and principally casual and contingent. During the years in which the government was engaged in hostilities with Tippoo or the Mahrattas, the police corps were necessarily increased in consequence of the absence of the military force. Much expence was incurred by additional political residencies in the Red Sea and Persian gulph, and by the employment of native agents. In the year 1804-5, in which the largest disbursement is exhibited, a considerable expenditure was occasioned by the relief afforded to the native inhabitants, who were brought to circumstances of extreme distress by the prevalence of famine. Since that period the expences appear to have gradually decreased, which is to be attributed to the cessation of contingent demands, and to the exertions of the government to carry into effect measures of retrenchment.

THE MARINE CHARGES

were estimated, in 1793, at -	L. 74,250
and amounted, in the year 1808-9, to - - - - - - - - -	167,440
being an increase of - - -	L. 93,190

The estimate of 1793, was calculated, in this instance likewise, on the average of five years. This calculation was fully justified, for although it was exceeded in the two first years, 1792-3 and 1793-4, on the average of seven years, 1792-3 and 1798-9, the expense was only 72,000l. The increase of charge in and after the year 1799-1800 requires some remark, and more particularly as a very material part of the addition thus made was of a permanent description. The marine establishment of this presidency was originally instituted, and has been maintained for services of considerable importance to the interest of the company, and to the commerce in general on the western side of India. It is in fact a species of navy. The merits and services of the officers, and the extensive benefits derived by the docks and arsenals, are well known. The immediate leading objects of this establishment are,

1st. The protection of the trade, which is considerable, from port to port, from piratical cruizers.

2d. The defence of the company's trade, and possessions in time of war, against European enemies.

3d. The transport of troops, &c.

4th. For making nautical discoveries.

5th. For conveying packets to and from the Red Sea, &c.

In the year 1798, the court of directors entered upon a full examination of the subject of the marine department of this presidency, in which they took into consideration the deficiency of the establishment upon its constitution at that time, and forwarded such instructions for its improvement in every respect as appeared requisite. The situation of the officers drew likewise their particular attention, and regulations were passed respecting their rank, placing it in relative proportion with that of the officers of the army, which had recently been considerably improved. The principle of granting furlough, and allowing total retirement after prescribed periods with the pay of the respective ranks, was also instituted, in like manner as in the military service. The whole of these arrangements was communicated to the Bombay government, by letter dated 1st August, 1798.

From the nature of the service, in the time of war particularly, the annual expense of this department is fluctuating and uncertain in its amount, as will appear by the inspection of the column now under examination. Measures are, however, adopted to check and control the expenditure, and keep it within such limits as are consistent with the efficiency of the service.

THE REVENUE CHARGES,

Were estimated in 1793 at - -	13,500
And amounted in the year 1808-9 to - - - - - - - - - -	96,081
Being an increase of - - - -	L. 82,581

The estimate was, in this instance likewise, calculated on the average expense of the five preceding years. It appears to have been justified by the average of the five years from 1792-3 to 1796-7, which amounted to 14,200l. It is to be remarked that these charges include the expense attending the collection of the land revenues, the customs, and the farms and licences. The increase in the receipts on the two last articles has been before noticed, and the occasion of it ascribed principally to the arrangements made with the nabob of Surat in the year 1800; also to the levy of new duties. The revenue management at Surat, and the stipulated payments to the nabob, are the principal causes of the increase now shewn. The alterations in the management of the revenues of Salsette have produced a part of it.

The examination in detail of the several heads of Revenue and Charge being completed, it remains to direct the attention to the final results produced by the financial operations which have been brought under review. The first object is to shew how far the revenues of the presidencies of Bengal, Madras, and Bombay, during the period which has been under examination, have been sufficient to meet the charges immediately attending upon the administration of them.

The investigation of the detail of the items of revenue and charge has been made on statements adjusted and drawn out upon principles to meet the particular mode on which it was originally proposed to conduct it, as distinctly explained in a former part of this report. This mode, however suitable to the purpose for which it was adopted, does not furnish the means of discovering the powers of the revenues of each presidency respectively to meet its charges. It is therefore proposed to proceed upon the examination of the results upon a principle by which this object may be attained. To this end it is necessary to refer to the several statements in the appendix first adverted to at the beginning of this report, which shew both the detail and the results of the revenues and charges of the three presidencies, likewise a general statement of the whole; and here the remark is to be repeated, that the results in it are precisely similar to the results in the general account, which has been the basis of the examination already made. The general statement, marked No. 2, is first to be referred to. On this view it will appear that in the year, 1793, it was estimated that, after paying the direct charges of the governments of three presidencies, exclusive of the supply to Bencoolen, &c. the commercial charges and the interest upon the debts, a net revenue would remain to the amount of - - - - - - - 1,775,500

And that, on the same principle, there would remain in the year 1808-9, a net revenue amounting to - - - - -	2,373,831
Being an excess of net revenue above the estimate, in this view, in the sum of	L. 598,331

The view of this statement further suggests the inference that, in point of fact, the revenues of India were more than sufficient to cover the immediate charges of the government of it upon the principles now stated, during the whole of the period from 1792-3 to 1808-9, with the exception of two years only, 1805-6 and 1806-7; in which years the charges of the Mahratta war, and the arrears of those charges, bore with the greatest pressure.

It is, however, to be remarked, that other demands which have fallen upon the revenues of India remain to be examined, before it will be practicable to pursue the investigation of the final results. These demands are described in the column of the statement as supplies to Bencoolen, Penang, &c. and the interest on the debts.

These several articles cannot, in either case, be considered as wholly of a political or of a commercial description, although they have uniformly been brought forward in the accounts from year to year as a direct demand upon the revenues of India, and have very materially affected the general result of the same. The commercial charges might have been brought under observation in this place; but it having been usual to exclude them in every political consideration of the finances, they will be the subject of remark in another part of this report.

The supplies to Bencoolen, Penang, &c. were estimated in the year 1793 at the sum of -	L. 50,000
The actual supply in the year 1808-9 was - - - - - -	158,208
Being an increase of - - - -	L. 108,208

It has been remarked that this head of charge may be considered as neither wholly political nor wholly commercial. This remark is in part justified by the charge itself, as in some years the advances to Bencoolen far exceeded the demand for the direct expenses of the residency, and must in such case have been applied to the purchase of pepper, which is the principal article of the trade of the island, and is supposed to be the ground, in a commercial view at least, of its retention. The cultivation of other spices has also been introduced to

a considerable extent, and those plantations are understood to be in a flourishing state.

Although Prince of Wales's Island has not hitherto produced any material sources of trade except Pepper, it is a station of great commercial as well as political importance, from its situation in a convenient tract for the passage to and from China, and from its proximity to the continent.

The supply to these settlements, from being below their actual wants, appear to have been estimated in the year 1793, at a small amount. The difference between the supply and the demand, particularly as it respects Bencoolen, must have been found from other sources, probably from Europe. The amount of the supplies has uniformly exceeded the estimate of 1793, except the year 1793-4. The average from 1792-3 to 94-5 was 56,000l.; it will be observed that after that period, the expense in this column was carried to an amount very far exceeding both the original estimate and the average now stated. Considerable alterations have been made in the administration or management of these settlements. With respect to Bencoolen, it is to be observed that the increasing charge drew the particular attention of the Court of Directors in the year 1801; when finding that, by the latest accounts, the annual loss incurred by this settlement exceeded 87,000l. they sent instructions to Bengal for a very considerable reduction of the establishment, both civil and military. The expense of the new plan was calculated to amount to 61,640 dollars, or 15,410l. per annum. Measures were taken to carry these orders into effect, but it does not appear that retrenchments were ever made to the amount directed.

The alteration, by reducing the settlements subordinate to Fort Marlborough, rendered it necessary to provide for the covenanted servants removed in consequence thereof. They were transferred to the Madras establishment, and the Act 42 Geo. III. cap. 29 was passed, authorising the company to make the settlement subordinate to Bengal, and to transfer the supernumerary servants to the establishment of Madras. The increasing expences of, and the abuses which prevailed in the management of this settlement, had not escaped the attention of the supreme government of Bengal. So early as the year 1799 they deputed a commissioner, with special powers to inquire into, and remedy the same. This commissioner proceeded thither, and continued his functions till the year 1805, when his commission was anulled. The immediate purposes of his appointment were far from being answered, as appears upon the face of the account from the year 1799-1800 to 1805-6. In the same year another gentleman was appointed as resident, who exerted himself with great effect in the necessary measures of reform; but unfortunately lost his life by assassination by the natives. Through his exertions the net charge of the settlement, which, on the average of eight years, 1798-9 to 1805-6, amounted to 117,000*l*. was reduced in 1806-7 to 37,632l. The actual accounts of 1807-8 are not received, but the charge in 1808-9 is estimated at 35,000*l*.

In the year 1793, the settlement at Penang, or Prince of Wales's Island, was under the management of a superintendent; the expences incurred were those of his salary and establishment, and of the detachment stationed there. As the value of the settlement rose in importance in a commercial view, instructions were sent from England to Bengal by letter, dated 28th August, 1800, for the appointment of a senior civil servant as superintendent, but the supreme government had already nominated a military officer of respectability as lieutenant-governor. In the year 1805 the government of this Island was constituted a presidency, with a governor and council, subordinate to the supreme government on the same principle as the other presidencies, and special instructions were issued for its future management.

In the year 1807 a charter of justice was granted, and his majesty appointed a recorder for its due administration in the Island. The session 1808 was the first in which separate accounts for this settlement were presented to Parliament. The average expence from 1804-5 to 1807-8 is 79,471*l*. The charge of 1808-9 is estimated at 101,000*l*. a recorder's court having been instituted, the charge of Malacca being included, and the military expense greater; but a reduction of expence may hereafter be expected under the orders of the court of directors for that purpose in the year 1809.

The column shewing the interest paid on the debts requires but little remark in this place, as the amount is governed entirely by that of the debt itself, which, being a point for separate consideration, will be adverted to hereafter. The sum estimated, in 1793, to be payable on the debt then existing, amounted to 561,923*l*. This calculation being necessarily made on the principal of the debt at various periods, for Bengal and Madras in January, 1792, and Bombay, so far back as October, 1791, cannot be considered as altogether a correct ground of comparison with the interest paid in 1808-9. Referring to the statement of the debts, marked No. 7, in which the principal is made up to the 30th April, 1792, the end of the official year, it will appear that the amount of interest payable on the same was 616,075*l*. By the

statement No. 2, under present consideration, the interest actually paid in the year 1792-3 was - - - L. 636,226
Deducting this sum from - 2,241,665

the amount paid for interest on the debt in the year 1808-9, an excess in the latter period will be exhibited, amounting to - L. 1,605,439

It is proper to be observed, with respect to the column of the interest paid at Bengal, which so considerably exceeds those of the other presidencies, that the expense exhibited in it is not to be entirely looked upon as the interest of the proper debt of that presidency; for although, as the seat of the supreme government, and the central point of the general administration of India, the loans raised from time to time might naturally be expected to be greater than at the other presidencies, it must be taken into consideration that it has been the practice to liquidate the debts of those presidencies by transfers to Bengal, consequently the Bengal debt would be enhanced in the amount so transferred.

It may further be remarked that, as it wil hereafter appear that the charge of the other presidencies has, with the exception of two years only at Madras, very considerably exceeded the revenues, it is to be presumed that a part of the loans at Bengal must have been raised in aid of their wants, in such amount as their own resources, from loans or other means, were not sufficient to meet the demands.

Your committee will now proceed to the examination of the final result, in a financial view, of the extensive, and, in some degree, complicated transactions which have been the objects of consideration and remark. It has been stated in a former part of this report, that, on the comparison with the result estimated in the year 1793, the result of the actual accounts of the year 1808-9 was more unfavourable in the sum of 1,189,619*l.* the estimate having calculated on a surplus revenue of 1,163,577*l.* and the actual accounts of 1808-9 having shewn a surplus charge of 26,042*l.*

The difference may be stated, in a general way, to have arisen as follows:

	Estimate 1793.	Actual Accounts 1808-9.	Increase.
	L.	L.	L.
Revenues - - - - - -	6,963,625	15,525,055	8,561,430
Charges of government - -	5,188,125	13,151,224	7,963,099
Net revenue - - -	1,775,500	2,373,831	598,331
Supplies to Bencoolen, Penang, &c.	50,000	158,208	108,208
Interest on the debts - - -	561,923	2,241,665	1,679,742
Total - -	611,923	2,399,873	1,788,950
Surplus revenue -	1,163,577	—	
Surplus charge -	- -	26,042	

Deterioration, as shewn above - - - - - L. 1,189,619

From this view it is ascertained that, although the revenues have increased in the sum of 8,561,430*l.* the increase in the charges of government has been such as to absorb the whole, except 598,331*l.*; and that the additional supplies to Bencoolen, &c. but, by far in the highest degree, the increase of the interest on the debts, have contributed to prevent the exhibition of a surplus revenue, as by the estimate of the year 1793.

The causes of the increase of revenue and of additions to the charges having been already explained in examining the detail of the statements which were then referred to, it is only necessary in this place to remark, that although an increase of charge is almost generally discovered, a great part is to be imputed to additional civil and military establishments required in consequence of the new acquisitions of territory, and a very material part to stipends and payments to the native princes of India, under the stipulations of the treaties with them.

Referring to the columns of the general result it will appear that, during the seventeen years therein stated, in the first five years 1792-3 to 1796-7, a surplus revenue was exhibited, though much reduced in the last year; that in the next five, from 1797-8 to 1801-2, the effects of the war principally

were such as to produce an annual surplus charge; in the year 1802-3 the effects of peace are shewn in a surplus revenue of near a million; from 1803-4 to 1806-7, the consequence of war again appears, but in a degree far more severe than in the former period; in 1807-8 the surplus charge was less than in the preceding year by 2,843,000l.; and in 1808-9 it was reduced to 26,042l. the amount before stated.

Combined views of these results suggest the following remarks. On the eleven years, 1792-3 to 1802-3, the revenues of India have proved more than sufficient to defray every demand for expense of administration and government, and the interest on the debts, by the sum of 3,734,445l. On the six years, 1803-4 to 1808-9, those demands being greatly increased, the revenues were not found sufficient for their discharge, or, in other words, the demands exceeded the revenues in the sum of 8,722,121l.

On the whole period of the seventeen years, 1792-3 to 1808-9, the surplus revenue amounted to the sum of - - - - - - - - -	L.6,478,397
and the surplus or excess of charge, to - - -	11,466,073
from which it will appear that, in this period, the revenues of India proved insufficient to defray the charges, and the interest on the debts in the sum of - - -	L. 4,987,676

It is thought proper to enter into some further detail upon this point, in order to shew in what manner this result has been produced, or the proportions in which the deficiency or excess of revenue at each of the presidencies contributed to its production. This will be discovered by reference to the statements marked Nos. 3, 4, and 5. At the presidency of Bengal, with the exception of one year, 1806-7, the revenues exceeded the charges and interest in the sum of - - L.27,409,097

At the presidency of Madras those charges exceeded the revenues in every year except two, 1792-3 and 1793-4, in which the casual payments by Tippoo Saib, in consequence of the treaty of Seringapatam, are included. On the whole the surplus charge amounted to - - - - - - - - - - - - -	L.11,193,882
At the presidency of Bombay the revenues have never been sufficient to defray the charges, and the gross excess of charge has amounted to	18,385,745
Total excess of charge at Madras and Bombay	L.29,579,627
Deducting from this sum the excess of revenue stated at the presidency at Bengal, the net excess of charge at the three presidencies will prove, on this principle, to be - - - - -	2,170,530
To which adding the amount of the column of the supplies to Bencoolen, &c. -	2,817,146
the total - - -	L. 4,987,676

is the amount already stated as the final result on this view.

Although the commercial charges are not considered to be immediately comprized within this branch of the present enquiry, it has been thought proper to place in the appendix a statement of the amount of those charges not added to the invoices for the same period as the other statements. The object directly in view in so doing has been prescribed from the consideration of the propriety of shewing the whole extent of the positive demands upon the resources of India in the way of charge, both political and commercial, in order to form some idea how far the money raised upon loan, which will appear in the increase of the debt, may have been on account of those demands.

The total of the commercial charges is . - -	L.3,056,251
Adding the net excess of charge before stated at -	4,987,676
the total excess of charge will then be . .	L.8,043,927

and may be stated as the final general result of the financial transactions of the East India company, at their several presidencies and settlements in India, during the seventeen years 1792-3 to 1808-9, in so far as respects the amount realized in revenues derived from those possessions, the expenses immediately attendant upon their administration and government, both civil and military, the amount of the interest paid upon the debts, and the charges of the board of trade, and the commercial factories.

The excess of the charges has been shewn to amount to the sum of 8,043,927l. The question, which, in the first, place obviously arises, is as to the mode by which this excess of charge was liquidated. The direct answer to this question might be, by money raised upon loan in India: for on reference to the statement marked No. 7,

the amount of the debt on the 30th April, 1792, was L.9,142,720
and on the 30th April, 1809, . 30,876,788

being an increase of . . L.21,734,068

of which 20,022,791l. was in the debt at interest, and 1,711,277l. in the floating debt.

Assuming that the surplus of political and commercial charges now shewn was defrayed from the loans raised from time to time, a difference would remain to be accounted for of 13,690,141l. which is the amount exceeding the demands upon this principle. A question will naturally arise as to the application of this sum. The examination of this very important point leads to a reference to the statement of the assets marked No. 8, in which their amount, on the 30th April, 1792, is shewn to have been - - - - - - - - L. 7,505,306
and on the 30th April 1809 - 20,086,036
being an increase in the latter period of L.12,580,730
which is less than the sum to be accounted for by L.1,109,411

The combined view of the state of the finances at the two periods, as shewn by the total amount of the debts and assets is as follows:

Increase of debt . . . L.21,734,068
Increase of Assets 12,580,730

The difference L.9,153,338

is the amount which, on this view, the concern in India is stated to have deteriorated during the period under examination, and is more than the excess of charge in the sum of 1,109,411l.

This mode of statement has been resorted to from the consideration of its being obviously suggested from the first view of the accounts; but a more narrow investigation of the detail, particularly of the assets, which will be explained hereafter, and the consideration of the general principles on which the financial administration of India is conducted, clearly demonstrate that independent of the unsatisfactory manner in which the difference above stated has been accounted for, a result drawn upon these grounds cannot be depended upon as accurate upon the present occasion, without reference to a great variety of documents, and without much more extensive information upon the subject than your committee have been enabled to procure; and it is to be remarked that the course to be pursued on such occasion would, by necessarily leading to a close enquiry into the commercial transactions of the company, have carried this branch of the examination into a more extensive range than was originally proposed. The importance of the questions which have been stated is considerable, and it is very desirable that they should be satisfactorily solved; but the various accounts which will be wanted for that purpose, induce the necessity of deferring this object of enquiry. It is however proper, upon the present occasion, to offer some remarks in further explanation of the difficulties in the way of pursuing this necessary object to a close.

The political and commercial concerns of the company are so interwoven in the financial system of India, that, under its present arrangement, it is of the utmost difficulty, if not totally impracticable, to make a distinct separation of them, and more particularly for the period under examination. The sources from which funds have been derived from year to year for the supply of the combined operations of government and commerce, were the revenues of the territories, and supplies from Europe either in bullion or exports, or by bills upon the court. When the aggregate amount of these several heads has not been sufficient to defray the expences of government, to provide investments, and to remit supplies to China, money has been raised upon loan. From these circumstances it is evident that, till accounts shall be obtained of the amount actually realized in India by the supplies received from Europe, and of the advances made for the purposes of commerce during the period, it will be impracticable to give an accurate view of the result upon the principles now in question; and it is to be added, that there are items of receipt and expenditure which, though they cannot be classed either with the revenues, or the charges, have an effect upon the debts and assets, which items demand examination. The assets contain likewise articles which certainly require adjustment, before a correct result can be drawn from the amount of them. This position is established from the consideration of their component parts in general being created from different sources, viz. supplies from Europe, as the import goods, part of the stores, revenue balances, and debts to a considerable amount, arising out of various transactions with native princes and others at the several presidencies; including likewise advances which are connected with both the political and commercial branches of the service, as those for salt and opium, and for the provision of investments. The increased balance of cash, which amounts to 5,544,998l. is also an important feature of this statement. From all these circumstances it is evidently a point of most serious difficulty to ascertain with precision what part of the balance of effective property, as shewn in the statement, has been produced by supplies from Europe, and what part has been provided by the application of funds raised in India.

From the preceding observations it must appear evident that it is not at present with-

in the power of your committee to pursue the examination of this very important point to a close, however desirable it may be that the conclusion of their report should shew in a distinct manner, the result of the application of the whole of the funds, whether ordinary from the revenues of the territories in India, or extraordinary from supplies received from Europe, or money raised on loan; and, it must be added, another material obstacle in this respect is found in the want of the Bengal books, which has been so repeatedly the subject of remark upon the present occasion.

Your committee further beg to observe, that the more immediate object of their present examination has been merely the state and results of the revenues and charges or, in other words, the financial transactions of a political description, comprizing the ordinary receipts and expenditure in India, during the periods in the account. The difficulties in the way of extending their enquiry at this time to the detail of the extraordinary receipts and disbursements have been adverted to; but it must be added, that inasmuch as the latter case involves both the political and commercial concerns of the company, it is very doubtful whether, in possession of every facility, it would be practicable to place the subject in that view which could be pronounced to exhibit an accurate and distinct separation of the results of each respectively.

The importance attaching to the consideration of this intricate and complicated point is evidently great, and the attention of your committee has been more particularly drawn to it by a document produced on the part of the court of directors of the East India company, which though not directly applicable in the strictest sense, is in many respects in near connection with it. This, document, which is added to the appendix, is entitled, *an exposition of the state of the company's affairs at home and abroad.* It is in two parts; the first made up to the year 1808, and the second is, in fact, a continuation of the first for two years, and termed a supplement. It contains extensive information respecting the political and commercial concerns of the company, stating the general causes to which in the opinion of the court, the deterioration of the affairs is to be attributed. Views are given of the net produce of the revenues of India from 1793-4 to 1808-9, and of the state of the debts; the profits on the trade are shewn from the years 1798-9 to 1809-10. A computation is made of the balance between the supplies from the home treasury and the returns from India and China, in eleven years; and several other statements are added agreeably to the references made to them in the document adverted to.

Your committee have not thought proper upon the present occasion, to enter into a detailed examination of the principles and opinions, or of the results of statements brought forward in this document, as, in the latter case particularly, they are not quite applicable to the plan on which it was proposed to conduct the examination of this branch of the concern.

It is therefore thought right to defer offering an opinion upon any part of it at this time, and the more, as, in many respects, it is conceived to fall more directly within the commercial branch of the concern, the details of which must be left to future enquiry.

Your committee will now conclude their examination of this branch of the financial concerns of the company by some observations on the prospective view of the revenues and charges of India for the year 1809-10, as shewn in the statements marked Nos. 2, 3, 4 & 5. In so doing it is not proposed to enter largely into the detail, which consists for the most part of the same description of items as those in the actual accounts of the year 1808-9, but merely to state the subject in a general way, contrasting the actual result of this year with that estimated for the next, and offering such further remarks as may appear requisite.

By the actual accounts of the year 1808-9 the surplus charge is stated at - - - - - -	L.26,042
It is estimated for 1809-10 at - - - -	1,686
which is less than in the preceding year in the sum of	L.24,356

This view, more favourable than the last year in a small amount, is much more so than has been exhibited during the five years antecedent to 1808-9. It must, however, be remarked, that some doubt is to be entertained of the accuracy of the calculation of the interest of the debts, which, upon examination, is found to be only the amount which would be disbursed within the year. On reference to the statement of the debts, the amount payable on the principal existing on the 30th April, 1809, exceeds that which is stated in the estimate by 281,254l. from which circumstance, after taking into the account the diminution to be expected from liquidation of debt in the course of the year, it is to be apprehended that the sum really chargeable for interest must be greater than what is now stated, and would increase the surplus charge accordingly.

The gross revenues in the year 1808-9 were	L.15,525,025
and are estimated for 1809-10 at	15,655,985
being an excess of.	L. 130,960

The Bengal revenues are estimated at a less amount by 225,000l. of which 157,000l. is in the salt. The calculations are made on the other heads in some instances higher and others lower than the past year. A decrease appears in the stamp duties in consequence of new regulations, but a new source of revenue is inserted, termed the house tax, which has been recommended by a committee of finance at Calcutta, whose report is not yet received. The calculation of its produce only extends at present to the owe provinces, and amounts to 23,200l.

The Madras revenues are estimated at a greater amount by 405,000l.; of which 63,000l, is in the customs. 145,000l. in the subsidy from the Rajah of Travancore, including arrears, and a small payment from the Cochin Rajah. The Land revenues are expected to be more productive in the sum of 127,000l. The remaining excess is on the different heads. No observation is requisite on the Bombay revenues.

The charges in the year 1808-9 amounted to.............. *L.* 13,151,224 and are estimated for the year 1809-10 13,609,411

Being on excess of : - - - - - - *L.* 458,187

The only remark necessary to be made in explanation of the increased charge is, that it is principally in the military department and in the expence of political residencies. Under many of the heads a diminution of expense is estimated.

Your committee having thus gone through the detail of the financial concerns of the company in India with as much minuteness as the documents in their possession have enabled them to do, and as the subject appeared to them to require, must defer any farther observations on this branch of the enquiry committed to them till more complete accounts are received in this country. The investigation into the commercial concerns of the company at home and abroad, and into the system of their government in India, will form the materials of future reports, as the importance of those topics, in any general enquiry into the affairs of the East India company, renders it highly expedient that they should receive a separate and deliberate consideration.

THE PETITION OF THE EAST INDIA COMPANY FOR RELIEF, PRESENTED TO THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, APRIL, 1811.

" Sheweth that the petitioners, in the month of April, 1808, presented a petition to the House, setting forth, among other things, that, upon a review of the state of their home finances from the 1st of March, 1808, to the 1st of March, 1809, the payments estimated to be made by the petitioners would exceed the probable amount of their receipts by the sum of 2,433,185l. and also the impossibility of the petitioners being able to raise the whole of that sum from their own resources, therefore praying such relief as the House might in its wisdom deem their case to require; and that the causes which produced the embarrassments, at that time experienced by the petitioners, were amply detailed in their said petition, which petition being referred by the House to a committee of its members, then sitting upon East India affairs, the House, upon the recommendation of their said committee, were pleased to vote to the petitioners the sum of 1,500,000l. upon account of the claims of the petitioners upon his majesty's government; which sum, together with the aid derived from sales, more favourable than had been estimated, of the company's goods in the year 1808-9, enabled the petitioners to provide for the wants of that year without requiring further assistance; and in the year 1809-10 their receipts were nearly equal to their payments; and that the causes which led to their financial embarrassments in the year 1808-9, have not yet ceased to operate, and they are subjected to new difficulties, arising chiefly from the following causes: 1st. from the excessive and unexampled drafts made in the two last years upon the petitioners from India, amounting to 4,704,946*l.* part of the Indian debt incurred in the course of several wars, and expeditions carried on there against Indian and European powers; and as the condition under which the greater part of that debt was contracted, allowed an option to the subscribers to be repaid at any time by bills of exchange upon the court of directors in England, these drafts, which have now come upon them could not have been prevented. 2d. By the unexpected calamities that have befallen the shipping of the petitioners in the two last years, whereby they have experienced a loss in the prime cost of merchandize, advances on account of freight, and the value of a ship belonging to themselves, to the extent of 1,048,077l. The causes of these losses, shewing them to be not imputable to any want of care in the petitioners, are to be explained at length to the committee of the House, sitting upon Indian affairs.—And that from a prospective estimate of the pecuniary transactions of the petitioners from the 1st of March, 1810, to the 1st of March, 1811, it appears that their unavoidable disbursements will exceed the probable amount of their receipts by the sum of 2,038,948*l.* which sum

it would be highly disadvantageous to the petitioners at the present period to raise, by increasing their capital stock, as they are by law authorised to do; and that their commercial resources never could, in the most flourishing times, be commensurate to the discharge of large portions of the Indian debt, contracted in the administration of the British empire in the east, and now amounting to thirty millions sterling; and that, at this time, especially of restriction upon commerce, the commercial resources of the petitioners cannot but be incompetent to provide for such unexpected and excessive contingencies; and that the accounts made up by the petitioners to the 1st of March last, shew that the property and effects of the petitioners in England, and afloat outward, then exceeded the amount of the debts of the petitioners in England, including the heavy and unusual drafts from India before mentioned, by the sum of 4,842,145l. which sum, the petitioners trust, will afford sufficient security for the repayment of any advance the House may think proper to vote for their relief; and that, owing to the multiplicity of accounts necessary to be made out before the petitioners could procure an estimate of their probable receipts and payments, between the 1st of March, 1810, and the 1st of March, 1811, the petitioners were unable to be prepared with a petition submitting their case to the consideration of the House, by the day limited for receiving petitions for private bills; and therefore praying, that they may be at liberty to present a petition to the House, praying that they will be pleased to take the matter aforesaid into their consideration, and to grant to the petitioners such relief, in the premises, as their case may require, and as to the House shall seem meet.

MADRAS MILITARY FUND.

[This article does not naturally range under the head of State Papers; but it has sufficient authenticity and interest about it, to a great portion at least of Indian readers, that should recommend it to a place among the class of official documents]

1. The directors of the Madras military fund have much pleasure in submitting to the army an account of the further progress which has been made in an institution established for the most laudable and benevolent purposes.

2. From a variety of causes the number of subscribers to the fund is not so great as might reasonably have been expected at this period;—the accompanying statement of the actual amount of the funds at the end of the second year, and of the claims to which they are subject, will, however, show that the permanence and success of the institution may be considered as completely established, as far as regards those objects of primary importance which it professes to relieve, in the cases of "widows and children of officers left "destitute of an adequate maintenance, "and of officers unprovided with aid by "the regulations of the service, or from "their own resources, under such urgent "circumstances of sickness as renders a "voyage to England necessary for the "preservation of their lives."*

* 2. If at any future period it shall be found that the funds of the institution affords a considerable surplus, after providing for the actual and probable applications for relief under the preceding articles, it shall then, and not otherwise, be competent for the directors of the institution, provided the permission of the honourable the Court of Directors be obtained, to afford the aid of the fund in the following cases.

1.—To officers compelled by ill health to abandon the country, after 10 years service, and before they are entitled to retire on full pay, the regulated passage money of their rank, and an annuity, which shall render their total income, from whatever source derived, equal to the full pay of their rank, and as in the case of widows, the possession of an income not exceeding half the proposed pension shall not occasion an abatement from the provision to be made by the fund.

2.—To officers who may have served 22 years in India, and may be obliged by ill health to retire from the service, without having obtained the rank of major, the regulated passage money of their rank, and such assistance from the fund as will render their whole income, from whatever source, equal to the pay of major; and as in the case of Widows the possession of income not exceeding half the pay of a major of Infantry shall not occasion an abatement from the provision to be made from the fund.

3.—In the event of a still further surplus it shall be competent for the directors of the military fund, at their discretion, and with the permission of the honourable the Court of Directors, to assist officers retiring from the service on full pay, in limited circumstances, with a sum equal to the regulated passage money of their rank, provided always that the resignation of such officer shall actually have been accepted previously to his embarkation.

3. Calculating on the utmost or most unfavourable extent of claims on the institution, the interest of its growing capital will be found fully equal to meet the expected demands; but while so large a proportion of officers withhold their aid from the fund, the views of further personal advantage to subscribers, which the regulations (as quoted in the margin) hold out, and which are understood to be particularly desirable to the army, must be apportionally remote, and what is more to be lamented, the probability of cases of distress occurring from the deaths of non-subscribers will be in the same degree increased.

4. To promote the attainment of those further personal advantages to subscribers, as well as to obviate all claims of the distressing nature adverted to in the preceding paragraph, it is earnestly recommended, that those officers who may have been hitherto prevented subscribing by doubts of the practicability, or of the efficiency of the system, will come forward in aid of this excellent institution, as an inducement to which, the directors have resolved to continue to receive the arrears of new subscribers, as heretofore, by instalments payable within 18 months, and that no interest shall be charged on such arrears, until the sentiments of the honourable Court of Directors respecting the institution shall have been received, after which the compound interest, which the regulations (when fully established) will render indispensable, will become a heavy charge, which it is hoped the present non-subscribers will take the opportunity thus afforded of avoiding.

5. All persons making voluntary donations shall be considered patrons and friends of the institution; and lists of their names, together with the amount of their donations, will be occasionally published in the government gazette—donations to the military fund will be received at the presidency, by the secretary to the institution, or at the government bank, and by paymasters at out-stations.

Statement of the number of subscribers to the military fund in each month, continued from the date of the last publications in the month of January, 1809.

1809	February	633
	March	626
	April	618
	May	621
	June	621
	July	626
	August	628
	September	628
	October	630
	November	631
	December	621

Dr. *Cash Account of the Military Fund, from 1st January to 31st December, 1809.* Cr.

Dr.	Pags.		
To Balance of last Account Current, published in the different Newspapers of the Month of January, 1809, viz. In Bonds. . . . 43,625 43 26 In Cash. . . . 622 8 1¾	44,248	6	27¾
To Amount of Cash received from the Paymaster at the Presidency, as per general abstract, and from Individuals, on account of Subscription and Donation, since the date of the last publication..........	28,547	4	8¼
To amount of Interest received on Government Bonds to this date. Pags. 5,757 40 27 *from which deduct* Amount of Cash paid on account of Interest Premium, Registering and Brokerage, on the purchase of the above Bonds, from the commencement of the Institution to this date. 28,17 41 59¾	2,939	45	47¾
Star Pagodas	75,735	9	2¾

Cr.	Pags.		
By annuity paid on account of the widow of a Clergyman, deceased on the 15th April, 1808, for herself and three Children, from 1st April, 1809, to 31st March 1810............	742	18	34
By amount of Passage Money to the above Widow and two Children proceeding to England...	1,071	18	0
By annuity paid to the Widow of a Major-general, deceased on the 26th Dec. 1808, for herself and four children, for the half year, ending 30th Sept. 1809........................	602	31	69
By annuity to the widow of a Major of the 14th Regt. N. I. deceased on the 12th June, 1808, for herself and eight children, for the half year, ending 30th September, 1809.	552	21	37
By amount allowed to a captain of the 3d Regt. N. I. proceeding to England on sick certificate as per G. O. 14th Dec. 1808..........................	500	0	0
By do. do. to a capt. lieut. of the 8th Regt. proceeding to Europe on sick certificate as per G. O. 3rd January, 1809.............................	500	0	0
By allowance for equipment granted to the following officers.			
A lieut. of the 9th Regt. N. I. proceeding to England as per G. O. 26th Sept. 1809..........	200	0	0
A lieut. of the 19th Regt. as per G. O. 26th Sept. 1809...	200	0	0
A lieut. of the 21st Regt. as per G. O. 3d October, 1809..... ..	200	0	0
By expences of the Secretary's establishment to this date, inclusive of all charges for writers, stationary and office contingencies.....................	1,100	0	0
By amount paid to the editors of the Govt. Gazette, Madras Gazette, and Madras Courier, for Advertisements, &c. &c...	124	37	40
	5,795	37	3
By balance being the Amount property of the fund of this date, viz. In bonds and treasury receipts 69,914 0 0 In Cash - - - - - - - - -27 17 10	69,941	17	0¾
Star Pagodas	75,735	9	2¾

(Signed) J. PRENDERGAST, Secretary.

Appendix. No. 2.

General Statement of the Revenues and Charges of India (exclusive of the Commercial Charges) as estimated in 1793, and by the actual accounts from the year 1792-3 to the year 1808-9, with the estimate of the same for the year 1809-10, drawn from the accounts presented to Parliament; shewing also the supply to Bencoolen, &c. and the Interest paid upon the debts; with the result in each year.

	REVENUES.				CHARGES.			
	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
Court's Estimate, Feb. 1793.	5,033,000	1,540,000 2,283,490 192,822	390,625	6,963,625	3,047,000	1,600,000	541,125	5,188,125
—— 1792-3	5,512,761	2,476,312 1,708,263 401,826	236,555	8,225,628	3,425,300	2,140,305	739,002	6,304,607
—— 1793-4	5,871,945	2,110,089	294,736	8,276,770	3,354,736	1,925,497	786,691	6,066,924
—— 1794-5	5,937,931	1,775,782	312,480	8,026,193	3,464,144	1,871,525	747,838	6,083,507
—— 1795-6	5,694,194	1,894,304	277,596	7,866,094	3,636,193	2,103,902	734,152	6,474,247
—— 1796-7	5,703,906	1,996,328	315,937	8,016,171	3,774,319	2,411,960	894,912	7,081,191
—— 1797-8	5,782,741	1,938,950	338,189	8,059,880	3,943,116	2,517,774	950,511	7,411,401
—— 1798-9	6,153,615	2,123,831	374,587	8,652,033	3,912,999	3,281,606	1,223,208	8,417,813
—— 1799-1800 . . .	6,498,473	2,822,536	415,663	9,736,672	4,437,463	3,065,880	1,494,811	8,998,154
—— 1800-1	6,658,334	3,540,268	286,457	10,485,059	4,702,400	4,405,558	1,297,543	10,405,501
—— 1801-2	7,127,988	4,729,609	305,992	12,163,589	4,733,478	5,085,215	1,204,759	11.023.452
—— 1802-3	8,380,087	4,724,904	359,546	13,464,537	4,914,105	4,831,158	1,220,164	10,965,427
—— 1803-4	8,060,993	4,651,744	558,648	13,271,385	5,354,321	5,994,131	1,652,631	13,001,083
—— 1804-5	9,336,707	4,897,140	715,548	14,949,395	6,508,200	5,991,746	2,048,487	14,548,433
—— 1805-6	9,542,430	5,014,493	846,486	15,403,409	7,719,944	5,385,640	2,455,744	15,561,328
—— 1806-7	9,160,149	4,602,721	772,869	14,535,739	7,847,604	5,269,700	2,166,604	15,283,908
—— 1807-8	9,971,695	4,927,519	770,691	15,669,905	6,371,843	5,193,673	2,05[illegible],106	13,624,622
—— 1808-9	9,816,458	4,968,321	740,276	15,525,055	6,476,986	4,935,743	1,738,495	13,151,224
Estimate 1809-10	9,590,880	5,373,191	691,914	15,655,985	6,562,875	5,257,365	1,789,171	13,609,411

	Net Revenue.	Supplies to Bencoolen, Penang, &c.	Excess of Revenue.	Excess of Charge.
	L.	L.	L.	L.
Court's Estimate, Feb. 1793.	1,775,500	50,000	1,725,500	......
—— 1792-3	1,921,021	66,217	1,854,804	... .
—— 1793-4	2,209,846	40,822	2,169,024	......
—— 1794-5	1,942,686	62,080	1,880,606	......
—— 1795-6	1,391,847	104,154	1,287,693	......
—— 1796-7	934,980	101,190	833,790	....
—— 1797-8	648,479	163,299	485,180	....
—— 1798-9	234,220	120,668	113,552	....
—— 1799-1800	738,518	171,363	567,155	....
—— 1800-1	79,558	156,325	......	76,767
—— 1801-2	1,140,137	241,220	898,917	....
—— 1802-3	2,499,110	196,848	2,202,269	....
—— 1803-4	270,302	304,056	......	33,754
—— 1804-5	400,962	372,163	28,799	....
—— 1805-6	Net Charg. 157,919	250,599	......	408,518
—— 1806-7	748,169	179,197	......	927,366
—— 1807-8	2,045,283	128,737	1,916,546	....
—— 1808-9	2,373,831	158,208	2,215,623	....
Estimate 1809-10	2,046,574	122,960	1,923,614	....

	INTEREST on DEBTS.				GENERAL RESULT.	
	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.	SURPLUS REVENUE	SURPLUS CHARGE.
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
Court's Estimate, Feb. 1793.	....	....	....	(a) 561,923	1,163,577	....
—— 1792-3	448,559	82,573	105,094	636,226	1,218,578	....
—— 1793-4	359,424	46,727	120,054	526,205	1,642,819	....
—— 1794-5	399,422	8,807	76,072	484,301	1,396,305	....
—— 1795-6	350,551	15,294	48,905	414,750	872,943	....
—— 1796-7	352,325	837,040	37,482	426,847	406,943	....
—— 1797-8	408,810	147,458	47,658	603,926	....	118,746
—— 1798-9	(b)503,955	160,488	57,107	721,550	....	607,998
—— 1799-1800	621,198	253,667	82,371	957,236	......	390,081
—— 1800-1	718,566	(b) 208,829	135,289	1,062,684	....	1,139,451
—— 1801-2	913,927	262,590	210,066	1,386,593	....	487,676
—— 1802-3	884,753	286,611	190,089	1,361,453	940,803	....
—— 1803-4	839,317	312,153	242,852	1,394,322	......	1,428,076
—— 1804-5	956,091	320,867	289,792	1,566,750	....	1,537,951
—— 1805-6	1,212,014	342,524	305,552	1,860,090	....	2,268,608
—— 1806-7	1,444,222	473,129	307,605	2,224,956	....	3,152,322
—— 1807-8	1,389,077	523,555	313,036	2,225,668	....	309,122
—— 1808-9	1,421,938	495,408	324,319	2,241,665	....	26,042
Estimate 1809-10	1,252,800	380,000	292,500	1,925,300	... .	1,686

India Board Office,
Whitehall, June 14th, 1810.

(a) This sum includes L.3, 147 interest on debt at Bencoolen.
(b) A sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt, was instituted in the year 1798; from that period the Interest is exclusive of what was paid on the Securities redeemed by the Fund.

(Errors excepted)

Thomas Nicholas Wittwer, Accountant.

Amount of the Revenues and Charges of the several Presidencies in India, as estimated in 1793, and by the Actual Accounts from the year 1792-3 to the year 1808-9, with the Estimate of the same for the year 1809-10, as laid before Parliament; distinguishing, as to the [Po]*ssessions exclusively, from the Subsidies from Native Princes, or Collections from Ceded and Conquered Countries; and, as to the Charges, the Military Charges, and the Charges for Buildings and Fortifications, from the Civil, Revenue, Judicial, and Marine Charges; shew*[ing the] *Supply to Bencoolen, &c. and the Interest paid on the Debts.*

	REVENUES.								CHARGES.			
	Revenues of the Company's Possessions exclusively; Per Separate Statement (A.)				Subsidies and Collections, from Ceded and Conquered Countries; Per separate Statement (B.)			TOTAL GROSS REVENUES.	MILITARY.			
	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.	Gross.	Charges.	Net.		BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
…t's Estimate, February, 1793	4,503,000	880,000	140,625	5,523,625	1,440,000	25,800	1,414,200	6,963,625	1,380,000	1,200,000	337,500	2,917,500
					2,047,780 (a.)192,822	329,110	1,718,670 192,822	8,032,806 192,822				
1792-3	4,978,854	824,509	181,663	5,985,026	2,240,602 1,515,478 (a.)401,826	329,110 177,352	1,911,492 1,338,126 401,826	8,225,628 7,874,944 461,826	1,588,784	1,412,597	479,205	3,480,586
1793-4	5,336,280	860,836	162,350	6,359,466	1,917,304	177,352	1,739,952	8,276,770	1,445,596	1,444,165	472,076	3,361,837
1794-5	5,402,276	1,003,201	133,151	6,538,628	1,487,565	135,853	1,351,712	8,026,193	1,432,860	1,508,197	468,541	3,409,598
1795-6	5,162,057	1,051,569	106,053	6,319,679	1,546,415	136,347	1,410,068	7,866,049	1,589,380	1,529,781	503,385	3,622,546
1796-7	5,227,208	1,137,953	119,432	6,484,593	1,531,578	164,894	1,366,684	8,016,171	1,700,666	1,796,377	610,014	4,107,057
1797-8	5,107,814	1,073,695	134,096	6,315,605	1,744,275	186,257	1,558,018	8,059,880	1,996,487	1,868,498	641,469	4,506,454
1798-9	5,168,546	1,067,952	144,386	6,380,884	2,271,149	209,820	2,061,329	8,652,033	2,010,227	2,561,372	901,988	5,473,587
1799-1800	5,577,035	1,056,129	143,877	6,777,041	2,959,631	356,564	2,603,067	9,736,672	2,225,721	2,261,151	1,039,152	5,526,024
1800-1	5,493,352	1,135,806	218,675	6,847,833	3,637,226	654,168	2,983,058	10,485,059	2,477,745	3,129,878	904,800	6,512,423
1801-2	5,641,164	1,305,770	259,992	7,206,926	4,956,663	896,883	4,059,780	12,163,589	2,569,375	3,571,236	856,061	6,996,672
1802-3	6,352,150	1,178,590	293,174	7,823,914	5,640,623	1,211,120	4,429,503	13,464,537	2,377,888	2,839,028	844,253	6,061,169
1803-4	6,506,429	1,136,845	233,338	7,876,612	5,394,773	1,539,648	3,855,125	13,271,385	2,490,626	4,026,028	1,261,139	7,777,793
1804-5	6,625,773	1,243,977	288,517	8,158,267	6,791,128	2,144,704	4,646,424	14,949,395	2,875,714	4,072,144	1,511,405	8,459,263
1805-6	6,636,148	1,322,168	295,082	8,253,698	7,149,711	2,453,807	4,695,904	15,403,409	3,743,868	3,384,211	1,904,519	9,032,598
1806-7	6,304,738	1,180,386	309,519	7,794,643	6,741,096	2,495,367	4,245,729	14,535,739	4,028,973	3,125,764	1,617,685	8,772,422
1807-8	(c.)	1,234,445	281,399	……	(c.)	(c.)	………	15,669,905	2,853,936	3,094,806	1,521,425	7,470,167
1808-9	(c.)	1,291,698	268,468	………	(c.)	(c.)	………	15,525,055	2,990,573	3,143,575	1,246,279	7,380,427
…mate 1809-10	(c.)	1,496,107	256,448	………	(c.)	(c.)	…..	15,655,985	2,945,240	3,610,312	1,282,815	7,838,367

	CHARGES.													GENERA[L]
	Buildings and Fortifications.				Civil, Revenue, Judicial, and Marine; Per separate Statement (C.)				TOTAL CHARGES, including those on Subsides.	NET REVENUES.	Supply to Bencoolen, Penang, &c.	Interest on Debts.	Total CHARGES and INTEREST.	
	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.	BENGAL.	MADRAS.	BOMBAY.	TOTAL.						Surplus Revenue…
	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.	L.
…t's Estimate, February, 1793	60,000	32,000	25,875	117,875	1,581,200	368,000	177,750	2,126,950	5,188,125	1,775,500	50,000	561,923	5,800,048	1,163,577
										1,728,199 192,829				1,025,756 192,822
1792-3	39,455	34,942	33,741	108,138	1,763,491	418,191	205,091	2,386,773	6,304,607	1,221,021 1,808,020 401,326	66,217	636,226	7,007,050	1,218,578 1,240,993 401,826
1793-4	82,965	9,258	22,967	115,190	1,797,873	394,345	220,327	2,412,545	6,066,924	2,209,946	40,822	526,205	6,633,951	1,642,819
1794-5	91,648	19,128	26,367	137,143	1,906,641	301,924	192,348	2,400,913	6,083,507	1,942,686	62,080	484,301	6,629,888	1,396,305
1795-6	48,172	39,219	11,121	98,512	1,969,342	479,953	167,547	2,616,842	6,474,247	1,391,847	104,154	414,750	6,993,151	872,943
1796-7	59,260	34,828	28,635	122,723	1,984,251	512,016	190,250	2,686,517	7,081,191	934,980	101,190	426,847	7,609,228	406,943
1797-8	30,815	32,330	36,363	99,508	1,875,996	541,962	201,224	2,619,182	7,411,401	648,479	163,299	603 926	8,178,626	……
1798-9	66,244	18,456	25,429	110,129	1,814,969	591,364	217,944	2,624,277	8,417,813	234,220	120,668	(b) 721,550	9,260,031	……
1799-1800	118,284	12,006	32,644	162,934	2,071,686	549,063	331,883	2,952,632	8,998,154	738,518	171,363	957,236	10,126,753	……
1800-1	119,964	41,996	21,513	183,473	2,081,197	623,389	350,851	3,055,437	10,405,501	79,558	156,325	1,062,684	11,624,510	……
1801-2	99,888	59,599	16,669	176,156	2,012,815	608,897	332,029	2,953,741	11,023,452	1,140,137	241,220	1,386,593	12,651,265	……
1802-3	126,960	39,656	17,179	183,795	2,196,367	967,287	345,689	3,509,343	10,965,427	2,499,110	196,848	1,361,453	12,523,728	940,809
1803-4	83,046	42,234	40,076	165,356	2,223,834	978,255	316,197	3,518,286	13,001,083	270,302	304,056	1,394,822	14,699,461	……
1804-5	59,657	75,458	84,918	220,033	2,506,562	806,243	411,628	3,724,433	14,548,443	400,962	372,163	1,566,750	16,487,346	……
1805-6	94,834	124,042	59,460	278,336	2,579,131	822,480	394,976	3,796,587	15,561,328	Net Charge. 157,919	250,599	1,860,090	17,672,017	……
1806-7	83,609	146,151	60,978	290,738	2,417,318	899,206	408,857	3,725,381	15,283,908	748,169	179,197	2,224,956	17,638,061	……
1807-8	32,016	193,260	63,601	288,877	(c)	834,546	400,981	……..	13,624,622	2,045,283	128,737	2,225,668	15,979,027	……
1808-9	34,800	185,966	58,598	279,364	(c)	660,071	370,272	……..	13,151,224	2,373,831	158,208	2,241,665	15,551,097	……
…mate 1809-10	29,000	58,800	85,826	173,626	(c)	687,650	349,860	……..	13,609,411	2,046,574	122,960	(d)1,925,300	15,657,671	……

(a.) Payment from Tippoo Sultaun, under the treaty of Seringapatam.
(b.) A sinking fund for the liquidation of the debt, was instituted in the year 1798; from that period, the interest is exclusive of what was paid on the securities redeemed by the fund.
(c.) The separation of the revenues and charges cannot be made for the years subsequent to 1806-7, in consequence of the detailed accounts of the Bengal presidency for those years not having been received.
(d.) This is the amount estimated to be paid for interest within the years 1809-10.

N. B. The Indian Currency is converted into British at the following Rates:
Current Rupee - - - - at 2s.
Pagoda - - - - - - - at 8s.

(Errors excepted.)

Thomas Nicholas Wittwer, Accountant.

TANJORE MAHARAJA SERFOGI'S S... HALL

MISCELLANEOUS TRACTS.

ORIGINAL LETTERS OF TIPPOO SULTAUN:

Published now for the first Time.

The EDITOR is indebted for the communication of the following Article to MAJOR GENERAL KIRKPATRICK, the Translator of the *Select Letters of* TIPPOO SULTAUN, published last year, (1811.) These documents may be considered as forming a sort of Sequel to that work; which the health of the Translator does not, to the general regret, enable him to continue to the extent that the materials in his possession would admit, or the curiosity of some readers might encourage. The Letters which follow are translated exactly on the plan of those already before the public; and they are also printed here as nearly in the same form as the nature of this publication would allow. They will not be found less interesting, or less illustrative of the singular character of their writer, than those which have preceded them.

The Extracts now presented from the broken register, which has been preserved, of the Sultaun's correspondence, follow almost immediately after the Letters with which the Volume already published concludes, although there is an interval of about twenty months between them; the former series ending with the year *Dullo*, (or March, 1787.) and the present one commencing with the month of Zâking of the year Sârâ, (or December, 1788.) This is the most considerable of the different chasms, which occur in this record, between February, 1785, when it begins, and December, 1793, when it closes.

With these short preliminary observations, the Editor places the following translations in the hands of the Reader; sensible, from the high and acknowledged reputation of the Author, that they stand not in need of any external recommendation to his notice.

LETTER I.—To Hûsain Ali Khan, Foujdâr of Furkhy, (Calicut) dated 12th of Zâking, year Sara, (A. M. 1216,) corresponding with 14th December, 1788.

MEER HUSUN ALI has been dispatched [to you] with two kushoons. With the assistance of Almighty God, and guided by the divine grace, he will, with the [further] aid of the holy Prophet, [soon] join you. You must [then], in conjunction with the aforesaid Meer, make prisoners of, and slay, the infidels [utterly]. Such of the males among them as may be under twenty years of age are to be made prisoners.* Of the remaining Unbelievers, *let five thousand be suspended to trees.*"

OBSERVATIONS.

It appears by another letter in the collection, that the Meer Husun Ali, here mentioned, was the second bukh-

* That is to say, their lives were to be spared, and they were to be detained as captives, or, in other words, to be made Mussulmans. Those prisoners whose age amounted to, or exceeded, twenty years, were, of course, to be put to death.

shy of the first Jyshe kuchurry; and that the reinforcements proceeding under his command to the coast of Malabar, consisted of the two kushoons of Syed Humeed and Syed Ghuffûr, and of two thousand infantry, commanded by Monsieur Lally. These troops appear to have descended into the Payeen-ghaut, by the Pass of Tambercherry.

The expedition here spoken of had nothing less for its object than the utter extermination, or conversion to the Mahommedan faith, of the whole nation of Nairs: nor was its success inconsiderable; for we shall hereafter see the Sultaun boasting "that "he had raised seven hundred thou-"sand of these people to the honour "of Islam."* What numbers of them fell in battle, or were put to an ignominious death, after being made prisoners, does not appear; but, adverting to the very sanguinary character of the warfare in question, there can be no doubt that the slaughter made of them at this period was immense.

LETTER II.—To the Bukhshy of the Ehshâm of the Hûzoor, and to the Sipahdar Meer Muhmood. Same date.

"You must, agreeably to the instructions formerly given to you, discover the retreat (or hiding places) of the Infidels; and, making prisoners of them, *hang upon trees such of them as are to be hung*; and, of the remainder, dispatch to Periapatam such as are to be dispatched."

LETTER III.—To Meer Hyder, Foujdâr of Kotungeery.—Dated 15th Zakiry, or 17th December, 1788.

"The rajahs of Kotungeery and of Kertnât appear to be united in a friendly league with Bâli Râo.† If *by any artifice* you can lay hold of those [persons], make prisoners of them instantly, *and dispatch them to hell*. If the *two dogs* fall into your hands [be sure to] act conformably with the above [directions]."

LETTER IV.—To Meer Khyrûlleh, Bukhshy of Jumâlâbâd. Dated 19th Zâkiry, or 21st December.

Extract.—"Some time ago, Ghûlâm Mahommed, the aumil of Kûriâl (Mangalore) sent to the Presence two samples of musquets [lately] imported by a Dutch ship; informing us [at the same time], that the price of one was 14, and the price of the other 15 rupees. To this we wrote for answer, that *buying the musquets valued at 14 for 13 rupees, and those valued at 15 for 14 rupees*, he was to pay for the same, if agreeable to the owners, with sandal wood, black pepper, &c.; but if payment was required in money, then money was to be given to them. It is now likewise written to you, that you are, conjointly with the above-mentioned aumil, to act agreeably to the foregoing directions."

LETTER V.—To the Aumil of Kûriâl (Mangalore) Same date.

"Two or three French ships are about to arrive there,‡ in order to purchase grain, &c. You must, in consequence, *on the plea of scarcity*,§ *put some advance on the price of the grain*. And if the commanders of those ships should bring any urzies (humble letters) to our address, you must inclose the same to the Presence in urzies from yourself; and [afterwards] deliver to them, when they reach you, such answers as we may write."

* It is possible that both those slain in battle, and the prisoners hung *in terrorem*, may have been included in this number, since the Sultaun is known, on a former memorable occasion, to have ordered the *dead*, as well as the living, to be circumcised. See page 150 of "Select Letters of Tippoo Sultaun."

† Name doubtful.

‡ That is, at Mangalore.

§ Original, به اظهار گراني "Setting forth, or representing the scarcity."

LETTER VI.—To the Pondicherry Fringy, (i. e. the Governor of Pondicherry). Dated 24th Zâkiry, year Sârâ, or 26th December, 1788.

"The account which you wrote of the death of Mahommed Ali Khan's son* is known (i. e. has been received). Assuredly, you will [continue to] procure intelligence from Chinnâputa (Madras), and write the same [to us] for [our] information. Give [us] also information, in detail, of the affairs of France; and with regard to the vakeels (embassadors) of the sircar."

OBSERVATIONS.

Although the improper style of the foregoing letter is almost sufficient to warrant the belief that it was actually addressed, as the entry in the register purports, *to the Pondicherry Fringy*; yet it is more likely that this contemptuous designation was confined to the copy-book, as otherwise the affront would have been too palpable to escape notice. The present is not the only occasion on which the Sultan has been seen to write in an abrupt and unceremonious manner to the governor of Pondicherry; nor is it easy to say, whether the offensive conduct pursued in this respect by the former, or the apparent submission of the latter to such indignity, is most extraordinary. And here it seems worthy of remark, that the Sultan never ventured to indulge the same spirit of arrogance in his correspondence with any of the British governors. Why, it may be asked, did he make this distinction between the two nations? and why was that distinction to the prejudice of those whom it was most natural for him to flatter and conciliate? It certainly did not proceed from any predilection in favour of the English. Was it because he gave the latter credit for being more conversant than their rivals in the forms of Asiatic correspondence, and therefore more likely to detect his encroachments; or did it arise from an involuntary respect for their superior power? Possibly both considerations might have contributed to produce this curious trait, and apparent anomaly, in the Sultan's deportment towards his two European correspondents.

The vakeels mentioned in the present letter are those whom the Sultan sent to France, by sea, about the middle of the preceding year (1787).

LETTER VII.—To Shaikh Kûtb.—Dated 29th Zâkiry, or 31st December, 1788.

"The account you humbly communicated [to us] of your having seized upon eighty-two Mapilahs, Nairs, Brahmans, &c. is known. *Let such of the males among them as are past twenty years of age be hung upon trees*; and tell Dileer Dil Khan to divide his forces into three divisions, and, making diligent search among the woods, &c. seize upon all [he may meet with]."

OBSERVATIONS.

Here the Sultan consigns the Mâpilahs, though Mahommedans, to the same punishment as the Hindoos. The truth is, that he regarded all Mussulmans who acted in league with his enemies, or in opposition to his own views of what the glory and interest of Islam required, in the same light as open Infidels; and, accordingly, on all occasions, felt the same sentiments of hatred for both.

LETTER VIII.—Address omitted.—Dated 7th Rehmâny, or 7th January, 1789.

Extract.—This letter, besides some directions respecting the form of the turbans to be worn by the different corps of the army, contains the following remarkable passage, which is not unworthy the notice of commanding officers in general, but particularly of those serving in India.

"——Let the troops be paraded for "exercise *once* a day, in the after-"noon.† It is needless [to do this] a

* The Umeer ul Omra, who died 1788.
† In the original—"When five ghurries (or about two hours) of day remain:" i. e. about 4 o'clock in the afternoon.

second time; because exercise twice in the [same] day harasses the men."*

LETTER IX.—To Hukeem Wâsil: dated 21st of Rehmâny, or 21st January, 1789.

EXTRACT.

"What you have humbly set forth in support of [the expediency of] amputating the leg of Meer Inâit Coollah Khan, and which you state to be the opinion [both] of the physicians and the patient [himself], is known. But of this there is the most entire assurance [or certainty]: namely, that the moment the leg is cut off, the patient will resign his soul to God. You must [therefore, continue to] administer [to him] the medicine with which we favoured you: and as soon as it is expended, state the same to the presence, when a further supply shall be graciously bestowed [upon you."]

OBSERVATIONS.

Whether the Sultan's interference in the case of Meer Inâit Coollah arose from any particular solicitude that he felt for the welfare of that person, or sprung merely from an over-weening conceit of his own medical knowledge, is uncertain: but, however this might be, his conduct in the present instance is probably without example; and, to say the least of it, indicates an extraordinary obliquity of understanding. For not satisfied, as on former occasions,† with simply obtruding his physical advice we here see him opposing, (and, in fact, forbidding) a surgical operation of the necessity of which the patient himself, (whose life perhaps, depended on its early performance) as well as his medical attendants, appeared to be entirely convinced.

LETTER X.—To Abdûl Mûlk,‡ Bukhshy of Ehshâm; same date.

Four urzies from you—two of them in the Persian, and two in the Hindi character,—have passed under [our] view. You must, in concert with Hussun Ali Khan, the second Bukhshy of the Jyshe chastise the infidels; and perusing§ the Hûkm Nâmeh (Instructions) written and delivered to him, act agreeably to the same. Having, moreover, ascertained the respective haunts of * * * ||; of the Paroo Purpnârman, and of the other insurgents, and having made prisoners of them, let them be hung upon trees.

LETTER XI.—To the Sipahdars Syed Humeed and Syed Ghuffâr; same date.

You must show the Hûkm-nâmeh, which was written and delivered to you, to Hûsain Ali Khan, the Foujdar of that place¶ * * * * If you should have slain and made prisoners, before the arrival of our special retinue [there,] the number of insurgents (or rebels) which you were directed by your instructions to slay and make prisoners, it will be well---otherwise you shall see what is to be seen** Consider, moreover, our special retinue as being nearly arrived (or, at hand.)

OBSERVATIONS.

This letter furnishes an additional proof of what was observed on a former occasion—namely, that no consideration of the merit, rank or services of any individual was sufficient to exempt him from the disgrace of being addressed by the Sultan, whenever the latter happened to be dissatisfied with him, in the same terms of acrimonious, and even vulgar reproof that he would apply to the meanest of

* Literally, "the men are distracted or confounded."

† See pages 146 and 310 of "Select Letters of Tippoo Sultan."

‡ Most probably the Shaikh Abdul Mulk (then Kibandar of Hooscotah) addressed at page 354 of the select letters.

§ Literally, "looking at."

|| Original illegible.

¶ That is Furkhy or Calicut.—Two or three words which follow here are unintelligible.

** By this expression a threat of displeasure or punishment is intended to be conveyed.

his subjects.— There can be no doubt that both Syed Humeed and Syed Ghuffâr stood among the foremost of those who enjoyed their master's confidence and good opinion; yet we here see that this did not prevent him from intimating to them, in a coarse and insulting manner, that if they disappointed his expectations, they might be assured of experiencing some signal mark of his displeasure. Such degrading treatment was certainly little calculated to inspire those who were liable to it either with affection for the person, or with zeal for the honor or interest of their tyrant: and if the instances of their swerving from their fidelity to him were rare, (as was no doubt the case) this is easily explained by a reference to the rigorous precautions which he adopted and which have been elsewhere noticed; with the express view of preventing their defection.

LETTER XII.—To Dilâwar Khan Lohâny and Meer Hyder. Same date.

You must conduct yourselves on your station, with great vigilance and circumspection, and assume towards the unbelievers an artful and conciliating behaviour; taking care not to let them by any means come to the knowledge of our having any quarrel with them. With the blessing of God the aider, our special retinue will shortly shed splendour on that quarter. Let this circumstance [however] that is to say, the approach of our special retinue, be kept secret.

OBSERVATIONS.

It is probable that the Meer Hyder named in the title of the foregoing dispatch, is the same person to whom letter 3 is addressed, and who is there called Foujdâr of Kotungeery. In this case there can be little doubt that by the unbelievers alluded to, the Nairs of Malabar were meant. The Sultan had not at this time determined, at least openly, on attacking the Rajah of Travancore: and though he had made some progress in the execution of his designs against Malabar, he might still be desirous of lulling the tribes immediately subject to the authority of Meer Hyder, and Dilâwar Khan, into such a state of security, as should facilitate the accomplishment of his ultimate views respecting them.

LETTER XIII.—To Mahomed Ali, 2d Dewân of Furkhy (Calicut) dated 29th of Râzy, or 28th February, 1789.

"At this time, two hundred and forty-two Nâimârs, (Nairs) of Wuteer,* Shâleer,* &c. (being prisoners taken in Wuteerwar,* have been sent to you; and a detailed list of them, according to tribes, is herewith enclosed. Having circumcised† them, you must enroll them among the faithful, and give to each man six cubits of cloth and a turban; and to each woman eight cubits of cloth and a petticoat, according to the ordinance, [in this case.] Keep them, moreover, with care. If there should be any deviation from this [command]; or if any of those [in question] should escape, you will come under our displeasure."

LETTER XIV.—To Budr ûz Zumân Khan, and others: dated 5th of Rubbâny or 6th of March, 1789.

CIRCULAR.

"Seven months ago,‡ our special retinue proceeded in splendour for the purpose of settling the country of Furkhy (Calicut,) when calling together all the Nâimârs, and Mâpilars, we made enquiry respecting the state of the receipts and disbursements of the riots; and, having ascertained the same, remitted a third part of the amount which they had been accustomed to pay to the Sircar, delivering

* The names of these places are uncertain.

† The word which I have here rendered *circumcised*, is not legible in the original; or, at least, is not so to me

‡ This is to say, in August 1788.

at the same time to every one of the rulers or chief men of the country,* a Hûkm-nâmeh (or mandate) to the following effect. "Your tribute,† has been reduced one third part. You must, [therefore,] apply yourselves, diligently and faithfully to the promoting of cultivation; and, paying your rents regularly to the Sircar, always attend obediently upon our aumils. Moreover, as among the tribe of Nâimârs, the woman has no fixed husband, or the man any fixed wife; but the whole with the exception of mothers, sisters, and daughters, cohabit promiscuously together like the beasts: now this not being [a] good [custom,] it is fit that you should desist from so hateful a practice; and that every man, taking to himself a wife, and keeping her in his house, do not suffer any other person (or stranger) to come before her."‡ In short a great many other matters of the same improper nature were set forth in writing [on this occasion;]§ and at the end of the Hûkm-nâmeh was written. "In the course of the last twenty-five years, you have slain near a hundred thousand of the Sircars' soldiers,|| and repeatedly committed excesses. Now, (or henceforward,) you must desist from these proceedings: but if you should ever again be guilty of the like, or engage in war or tumult against the Ahmedy Sircar, we will, with the blessing of God, the helper, act by you according to the book of God; and, carrying into execution, the commands of God, and of the messenger of God, will confer upon your whole nation the honour of Islam; and place, (or enroll) every individual of you in the Ahmedy ranks." This was given in writing: after which, having laid our strict injunctions on the whole [body] our special retinue shed splendour on the royal residence (Seringapatam.)¶

Four months after this [settlement,] these base wretches, spreading confusion around, and setting sedition on foot, broke out universally into [a fresh] rebellion; and engaging in frequent hostilities with the Foujdars stationed among them, reduced the latter to great straits. Immediately upon learning of the *whoreson* behaviour of the infidels, our special retinue again moved in the direction of Furkhy (Calicut,) with a view to fulfilling the commandments of God, and of the messenger of God, as contained in the Koran, and delivered twelve hundred years ago. The crusades which [in consequence] took place at that period, may be learned by reference to ancient books. Since then, no person has undertaken a crusade,** till now that we, through the divine favour, and with aid of the holy prophet, have embarked in the present one, with which no other good work can compare; nor can any claim so high a reward."

The letter proceeds to state that the holy war now pursuing had already led to the *spontaneous* profession of the true faith by great numbers of the infidels and their families: and it concludes, with inculcating the positive duty of all Mussulmans, to take up arms for the advancement of Islam; and by expatiating on the favour which they will by so doing, acquire with God, with his prophet, and with the Mahomedan world at large.

N. B. The foregoing mandate was directed to be read to the whole of the Mussulman population of the place, who were to be assembled for the purpose, on the next ensuing Friday after

* Original ملک واله *Mûlk-wâleh.*

† Original محصول *Muhsool*, which is ordinarily applied in Hindoostan, to the duties or customs of trade.

‡ i. e. into her presence.

§ The meaning seems to be that many other mal-practices of the Nairs, besides the promiscuous intercourse of the sexes, were noticed and prohibited on this occasion.

|| There is no reason to suppose, that the loss sustained, by Hyder and his Son, in the subjugation of the Nairs, (if they could be said to have ever been subdued,) is at all overrated in this place.

¶ The transaction here spoken of, is also mentioned in the Sultan's own memoirs. See page 207 of Select Letters, of Tippoo Sultan.

** Meaning, of course, against the infidels of Malabar.

its receipt in the public mosque, where, besides the customary devotions of the day, a special thanksgiving was ordered to be rendered to the almighty, for the Sultan's recent successes, and prayers to be offered up for a continuance of the same. The service was appointed to be closed with a discharge of twenty-one guns, and the distribution of fifty retls (maunds) of sugar, among the people (i. e. the true believers).

At the end of the present letter, the Sultan signifies his intention of repairing speedily to Seringapatam. He would appear, at the date of it, to have been encamped in the vicinity of Chercul and Kotungeery.

LETTER XV.—To Mahommed Ali, Bukhshy of the Huzour Ehshâm; dated 12th of Rubbâny, or 12th March, 1789.

"You will, with three Rissalehs of Ehshâm, and a hundred Mahommedies,* under Mahommed Ali, Sofy, and Mâhi Mahommedy, proceed towards the fort of Kumbary,† and having arrived within a coss or two of the same, where a body of the infidels, belong to the garrison, are assembled. You are, (with the assistance of the Mahommedies) to ascertain their exact position, and, having done so, are to fall upon them from three different quarters, and to make the whole of them prisoners. You are then to encamp close to the aforesaid fort, where, preparing by means of the Mahommedies, a repast of rice and beef;‡ you must feed the whole of your prisoners there on the same day, and afterwards incorporate them with the professors of Islam. They are then to be given in charge to the Mahommedies, with directions for their being all forthwith circumcised. This being done, let them be reinstated in their possessions.§ Having in the course of two or three days accomplished all this business, you will on the fourth day repair to the presence.

"You are to take Wankut Rao, a Persian writer, and a Gûmâshteh, who is a Hindy writer, along with you: and, measuring the length and breadth of the fort, cause the particulars to be set down in writing, and transmitted to the presence."

LETTER XVI.—To Ghûlâm Hûsain, Shaikh ul Islâm; dated 15th of Rubbâny, or the 15th March, 1789.

"Your humble address containing an account of the fight|| of the Nâimâr riots of the village of Poomany,¶ has passed under our view. What business have you with the absconding of, or with the sending after, the Naimârs, &c.? When you shall be favoured with a Hûkm-nâmeh (or instructions) from the presence, you must act according to what may be written therein; until that time, *remain near** the Umldâr*, (or manager of the district.)"

OBSERVATIONS.

Among the Mahommedans, the Shaikh ûl Islâm, answers to the chief priest or metropolitan of other countries. Of the exact nature, however, of the office under Tippoo Sultan's government, I am ignorant. But whatever authority he might be allowed to exercise in spiritual, it appears by this letter that he was not suffered to arrogate any in temporal, affairs, and that if he ventured to do so, (no matter with what motive) the sanctity of his station did not secure him from expe-

* By Mahommedies, are probably meant some particular class of converts to Islam.
† Name uncertain.
‡ The Hindoo who eats beef, necessarily loses cast.
§ Literally, "let them be left, as they were before, in their houses."
|| Original, رو پوش *roo-poash*, literally "covering or concealing the face."
¶ Name uncertain.
** These words would seem to imply that the Shaikh ul Islam, had quitted his proper station, for the purpose of conducting his enquiries respecting the absconded riots.

riencing, in common with others, the bitterest reprehension of his sovereign.

LETTER XVII.—To Turbiyut Ali Khan, and Meer Ali;* dated 16th Rubbâny, or 16th March, 1789.

"Your humble address, accompanied by a *box*, containing a letter from the governor of Chinaputa, (Madras) has passed under our view. You must send word to the pair of Hurkârehs, [who brought the letter in question] "that the victorious army is at a great distance; that an answer to the letter brought by them, will be forwarded hereafter; and that they may, therefore, for the present, go back to Chinaputa."

OBSERVATIONS.

As the distance of the army did not prevent the Sultan from receiving the governor's letter, or from advising the Bukhshies of its receipt, neither could that circumstance have opposed any obstacle to his returning an immediate answer to it, or to the transmission of that answer by the English messengers, if such had been his wish. But whatever might be the motive of his conduct in the present instance, it appears that to another letter which he received about a week after, from the same quarter, he dispatched a reply without the delay of a single day. The former of the two letters in question, was, probably, from Sir Archibald Campbell, announcing his resignation of the government of Fort St. George; and the latter was, no doubt, from his successor, Mr. Holland, the answer to it, dated 24th of Rubbâny, or 25th March, 1789, expressing in terms of civility, "the Sultan's pleasure at learning of the writers succession to the government, and his hope that the new governor would exert himself to improve the friendly relations already subsisting between the Usud Ilhye Sircar, and the English Company."

By a letter which follows here, addressed to Buda ûz Zuman Khan, it appears that the latter had lately put Tukojee Holcar's agents in possession of certain lands in the district of Gujunder Ghurr, which had been bestowed upon that Mahrattah chieftain, by the Sultaun—whether recently, or on any former occasion, is uncertain.

LETTER XVIII. — To Ushruf Ali Khan; dated 19th Rubbâny, or 19th March, 1789.

EXTRACT.

"You write that, with our permission, your son will repair to kiss our threshold, after having performed the [customary] rites of the blessed month of Rumzân.† *Now the same month of Rumzán, which occurs* THERE, *will occur* HERE. You must, therefore, dispatch the aforesaid to the Presence, that he may offer up the prayers of the season here; a passport for him is accordingly enclosed."

OBSERVATIONS.

It is probable that Ushruf Ali Khan had been directed by the Sultan to send his son to court, and had, in consequence, requested leave to detain him till the expiration of the fast. The Sultan who rarely tolerated the slightest departure from his orders, refuses his request with a sarcasm entirely in character.

LETTER XIX.—To Uzmut ûllah Khan, Darogha (or superintendant) of the fleet at Kûriâl, (Mangalore); same date.

"What you have humbly stated respecting your want of Coir‡ Rope, &c. is known. It is written in your

* These officers appear by other documents, to have been Bukhshies of the Ehshâm, stationed in the district of Bangalore.

† Rumzân is the Mahommedan Lent.

‡ Original, تار نارجيل by Europeans, called *Coir*. It is the fibrous substance which envelopes the Cocoanut; and of which an excellent kind of rope is made.

Hûkm-nâmeh, that you are to employ the Khulâsies (sailors) during the rainy season, when they are disengaged,* and without any thing to do, in bringing Coir from the woods, and in making the same into Rope. You must, therefore, have consigned your Hûkm-nâmeh to the niche of oblivion, and, never looking into it, do, by this means, *spoil* (i. e. waste) *the paper* of the Sircar in writing idle (or nonsensical) stories. This is not a proper thing; you must act in conformity with your instructions.'

LETTER XX.—To Abdûl Kâdir Taalûkdâr of Kotungeery; dated 22d Rubbâny, or 22nd March, 1789.

"We have conferred the honour of Islamism on ten or twelve thousand Infidels, of whom we have detained the Lumboony Bhutmâr,† and some other of their principal men who were the instigators of the [late] sedition. All the rest of them we have dispatched (or sent back) to their respective homes, together with their women and children; having previously, however, taken engagements from them, and given them Hûkm-nâmehs (or written instructions for their future guidance). You must communicate this [proceeding] to the unbelievers [in your quarter] and, moreover, sending for them, *make Mussulmans of them*, and then dismiss them to their [several] homes, with the exception of the Lumboony Bhutmâr and other chief men, whom you are to detain with you, *representing to them* '*that you do so only till you shall have received khilaats* (dresses of honour) *for them from the presence, after which you mean to dismiss them also.*' For the present, five Hûkm-nâmehs are transmitted to you. Having taken from their principal men engagements of a corresponding tenour with the Hûkm-nâmehs herewith sent, deliver the latter to them; and if you should be in want of any more Hûkm-nâmehs, state the number you require, and they shall be transmitted to you.

LETTER XXI.—To the nine Kuchurries, exclusive of Jumâ Lâbad and Furkhy, (Calicut;) same date.

CIRCULAR.

"You must select twenty persons from among the *Moullaems* of your district, or those who instruct children in reading: and giving each of them *three or four rupees* (from seven to nine shillings) for travelling expenses, dispatch them to the presence, where they shall be exalted to the office of kauzies."

OBSERVATIONS.

This order is not calculated to give us any very favourable idea of the description of persons employed by the sultan in the office of kauzy. A village school-master was not likely to be very conversant in the Mahomedan law; and he, to whom the pittance of three or four rupees was considered an adequate compensation for the expenses of a journey of perhaps two hundred miles, may be fairly presumed to have been among the most indigent of the people. The inference as to the probable tendency of such appointments is obvious.

LETTER XXII.—To Abdûl Ruzâk, Urz Baigy,‡ dated 6th of Ahmedy, year Surâb, (Ann. 1217) corresponding with the 5th of April, 1789.

EXTRACT.

"You have done right in committing the two Nair chiefs [you mention] to the custody of a guard.

"You have represented that the cousin of the traitor,§ and other leaders [of the Nairs] have applied for *kowl* (or assurances of safety.) You must [accordingly] give them *kowl*, and having, *no matter by what means*, got them to come in to you—*you must put*

* Original, *Khali*, or *empty*.

† It would appear by the context that these were not proper names, but the designation of some particular offices among the Nairs, corresponding probably with Iaismooks, Pateils, &c.

‡ The Urz Baig, or Urz Baigy, is a kind of usher, or master of ceremonies.

§ Original, نمک حرام *numuk-hurâm*; most usually implying *one guilty of ingratitude*. It does not appear who the *traitor* alluded to was.

them in confinement, and report the same to us."

A chasm of about nine months occurs here in the registered correspondence; the letters written between the 12th of April, 1789, and the 19th of January, 1790, being wanting; and the next of those preserved being the following:

LETTER XXIII.—To Syed Abdûllah and three other Mûshâiks, or persons of religious order; dated 27th of Rehmâny, year Surâb, or the year of Mahommed, 1217; corresponding with the 18th Jan. 1790.

(CIRCULAR.)

Through the divine favour, and with the assistance of the refuge of prophecy, (Mahommed) *the whole* of the Infidels inhabiting the district of Furkly (Calicut) have received the honour of Islamism. There are only *a few* on this side of the country of Cochin who remain [to be converted;] and these also it is our firm determination to exalt and distinguish by bestowing upon them the happiness of the true faith. As this [then] is an affair of holy war, we write to you, among others who are conversant in sacred matters, to desire that you will repair, accompanied by all the Mahommedans depending upon you, to our resplendent presence; whence, after a little while, having brought this business to a close,* we will dismiss you, Sir, and them, to your respective homes.

OBSERVATIONS.

The few remaining Infidels in the neighbourhood of Cochin, here alluded to by the sultan, were, no doubt, the people of Travancore whom he had already† endeavoured to exalt (as he expresses it) to the honour of Islam; but by whom he had been shamefully repulsed in his memorable assault of their celebrated lines, on the 29th December, 1789. Of this repulse, however, no hint is dropped, either in the present, or in any other letter of this prince, that has been preserved; nor is it, indeed, probable than any trace of it would have been discoverable in the correspondence even though the letter had reached us entire. Of his murders and treacheries he was not ashamed; and, therefore, of these we have abundant testimonies, all of them from himself. It was otherwise with his errors and defects; his fears and his mortifications; and, accordingly, we rarely, if ever, meet with any allusion to them in his writings.

The inscription of the foregoing letter, not specifying the place of residence of the persons addressed, I am unable to say whether they were natural subjects of the sultan or not. The circumstance of the Shaikhs themselves being required to repair to his presence makes it most probable that they were.

It is evident from the tenor of the preceding circular, that at the date of it the sultan continued in the resolution of resuming, at no distant period, his operations against the Travancore barrier, of which he accordingly obtained possession about three months after. Of this achievement we shall presently see his own vapouring account.

LETTER XXIV.—To Mahommed Saaeed, Aumil of Khoosh-hâl-poor;‡ same date.

"You have already been written to on the subject of dispatching the ships belonging to the Usud Ilhye Sircar, (i. e. to us;) and we now again write to direct that immediately on receipt of this our most gracious letter, you dispatch with speed whatever number of ships, grabs, or other vessels of war there are [at Khoosh-hâl-poor] to Sâdghaut, under charge of the first

* Literally—having obtained leisure from this work.
† That is exactly three weeks prior to the date of the present letter, or 29th Dec. 1789.
‡ This is a seaport of Canara.

Durogha Husum Khan, and the second Durogha Kumâl ûd Deen."

OBSERVATIONS.

Whether the movement of this naval force, here directed by the sultan, was ordered with the view only of placing it in greater safety from any attempt which might be made upon it by the English, (with whom he, no doubt, by this time expected to be involved in hostilities;) or was preparatory to some operations on the coast of Travancore, I have not the means of judging with any certainty. If, however, by Sâdghaut, Sargaut, or Saoyhaut, (for the original is susceptible of each of these readings) Chowgaut, placed in our maps, near the mouth of the Paniany river, be meant, as I am inclined to think is the case,* there can be little doubt that the latter was the object of the measure in question.

Letter XXV.—To Ushraf Ali Khan. Asof of Jumâl â bâd; same date.

"Your humble address, accompanied by two letters, written to you by Koonchy Tumunba,† and a copy of your answer to the same, has passed under our most luminous view. Forasmuch as the abovenamed is one of those infidels with whom we are at war,‡ and one of the enemies of the religion of the prophet, you are to consider it as *being among the acts of worship*§ to labour *by every means* and *in every manner*, to repel and slay that villain. There being then, *according to the word of God*, no objection to [employing] *oaths* and *engagements* for the purpose of destroying an enemy of the faith, that great and exalted person|| must, in this case, get possession of and slay Koonchy Tumunba, by *whatever you may think fit, or see practicable, whether the same be by oaths and promises, or by trick and cunning.* This matter (or action) will [at once] *be pleasing to God and the prophet of God*, and gratifying to our high and sacred mind. Hence you must regard unwearied exertions in this respect as the most urgent of things, and speedily seizing upon that infidel, apprize us of the same. Make, moreover, Mussulmans of *the whole of the* unbelievers of that country; not leaving a single individual [uncircumcised:] forasmuch as this proceeding will likewise prove a means of *breaking the loins* of that infidel."

OBSERVATION.

The foregoing letter needs no commentary.

Letter XXVI.—To Ghûlâm Ali Khan, Lutf Ali Khan, and Jaafur Khan, dated 28th of Rehmâny, or 19th of Jan. 1790.

"Agreeably to what you have written, (i. e. desired) we have sent orders to the Asof of Furkhy, (Calicut) to dispatch you, together with your baggage, to our resplendent Presence. You are to proceed from Furkhy to the resplendent Presence by way of Sâdghaut."*

OBSERVATIONS.

I am ignorant at what time the embassy sent by the Sultan towards the commencement of the year 1786, ostensibly to Constantinople, but secretly to France, actually returned to Mysore. The tenor of the foregoing letter would seem to imply that it had only recently arrived from the Persian gulph at Calicut; upon which supposition, the period of its absence was not less than four years. Considering that it

* Particularly as it is written Sawcar as well as Chowgaut in the map prefixed to Colonel Wilkes's History of Mysore. See also letter XXVI. where its position, with respect to Calicut is clearly indicated.

† Name very uncertain.

‡ Or, it may be rendered *against whom it is lawful or proper to make war.*

§ That is equivalent to an act of worship.

|| See Letter 24.

did not proceed farther than Constantinople, this is difficult of belief. At the time of its departure, it consisted of Ghûlâm Ali Khan, Lûtf Ali Khan, and *Shâh Noorûllah*. Instead of the name of Shâh Noorullah, that of Jaafar Khan, appears in the inscription of the present letter.

LETTER XXVII.—To Budrûz Zumân Khan, same date.

"In this letter, the Sultan informs Budrûz Zuman Khan, of his recent success in Malabar, where he tells him he had brought four hundred thousand infidels within the pale of the Mahommedan religion. He then announces his intention of proceeding shortly against "the accursed Râm Nair," (the rajah of Travancore) whom, together with his people, he hopes soon, "with the blessing of God, and the aid of the Prophet, to exalt in like manner, to the honour of Islam." With this view, he proceeds to say, he has postponed his return to Seringapatam; "religious concerns and the duty of waging war against infidels, superceding with him all other considerations, and exclusively occupying his attention."

Budrûz Zumân Khan, is afterwards directed "to assemble together all the priests, and other heads of the Mahommedan Church, within his jurisdiction, and to instruct them to exhort all true Mussulmans to join in prayers to the throne of God, for the success of the holy cause in which he was embarked."

LETTER XXVIII.—To the Sipahdar Abdûl Ruzzâk; dated 10th of Râzy, or 31st January, 1790.

"Whatever number of Nairs shall be sent to you, you are immediately to cause the whole of them to be circumcised, giving each of them, from the Tosheh-Khâneh (store-house) of the Sircar, a wrapper of coarse cloth, four cubits long, and attending carefully during three days, to their surgical treatment, (literally, to the business of their cure.) On the fourth day, let them be set at liberty; during the three days, [of their detention] each person is to receive daily a Seer of rice; and one pice,* [in money]. Let the ingredients, (or materials) used in making the ointment, [to be applied to their wounds] be procured from the Sircar's granary. Of this ointment, let five seers weight be prepared at once, and kept in readiness to be served out as it shall be wanted."

The foregoing letter is followed by two others of the same date, to the officers who were respectively to supply the Sipahdar with the articles specified in the former, instructing them to do so, upon receiving an application to that effect, *under the hand and seal of* Abdûl Ruzzâk.

LETTER XXIX.—To Sheer Khan, Asof of Furkhy, (Calicut) same date.

EXTRACT.

"You write that there is no *Tâtputty* or Gunny cloth† to be procured in that country. We, therefore, write to desire that you will select ten clever Ahmedies, and dispatch them to the Presence, in order that, being instructed here in the business of making gunny cloth, they may be sent back to you, when you will, by their means, introduce the manufacture generally among the Ahmedies and other inhabitants of Furkhy, to the end that abundance of that article may in future be manufactured in that country."

LETTER XXX.—To the Beeby, (queen) of Cananore; dated 10th of Râzy, or 31st January, 1790.

"The humble address which you have sent [to us] on the subject of the smallness of your force, and of the

* A pice is a small copper coin of the value of a halfpenny.
† Gunny cloth is a kind of coarse sail cloth, made of sun, or Indian hemp.

disregard shewn to your authority by the old* commanders of the Mahommedies, is comprehended. With the blessing of the Most High God, the chiefs of the Mahommedies shall, for the future,† according to former usage, and agreeably to your wishes, be made to obey your orders, and to be duly submissive to you. At this time, do you repair to the Presence, bringing with you whatever number of troops you may have at hand. There are assembled here also, nearly twenty thousand Mahommedies; you must, therefore, not exclude yourself from (or fail to participate in) the honour of this crusade, than which there neither is, [now] nor never will be, a superior happiness, in either world. By this conduct you will at once please God and the Prophet, and give satisfaction to our high and most holy mind. Consider, moreover, that your worldly affairs will be benefited by the same means. The twenty thousand Mahommedies now with us, shall all be placed under you, and be employed on a certain service."

OBSERVATIONS.

The correspondence of the Sultan already before the public, furnishes more than one instance of his earnestly urging the queen of Cananore to repair to his court; and we here see him renewing his solicitations, or rather his commands for the same purpose. He would not appear, however, to have had any better success on the present occasion, than during the Mahratta war; at least, I have discovered no trace of this personage having complied with the Sultan's requisition, previously to her submission to the English, who took possession of her capital on the 16th December following the date of the foregoing letter.

It is not known on what particular service the Sultan intended to employ the Cananore force, if it had joined him. Possibly, however, the concluding sentence of his letter was designed only as a lure to the Beeby to proceed to his camp.

Letter XXXI.—To Syed Mahommed, the second Asof of Jumâlâbad. Dated the 13th of Râzy, or 3d February, 1790.

"We herewith send you an humble address, which we have received from Seedy Fukhrûd Deen and Mahommed Sideek, the daroghas of the factory at Muscat, together with an account of their purchase [for our use] of sixty male and female doombas.‡ We desire you to examine into what the daroghas write respecting the deficient weight of the rice, black pepper, and other articles, in order that this kind of deficiency may not occur in future. You are, moreover, to give orders to the whole of the aumils and merchants belonging to your jurisdiction, to make up every moora, or bag, of rice, to the weight of forty pucka (or full) seers; and never to let them contain more or less.

"It has at this time been determined at our resplendent Presence, that the Dow shall [henceforward] be called Eliasy; and the Dingy, Khizry.§ You are, accordingly, to make use of these names when you write [in future respecting them]."

Letter XXXII.—To Ghûlâm Mohy ûd deen, Bukhshy of the 4th Suwar (Cavalry) Kuchurry.—Dated 15th of Râzy, or 5th of Feb. 1790.

"You some time since humbly represented [to us], that you were about to repair, with the forces under your

* That is, those of *long standing*, in contradistinction to those more recently appointed.

† Original, بعداز این *after this*, which may also mean "at some future time or opportunity."

‡ The Doomba is a species of sheep imported from Persia, and which is remarkable for the fatness of its tail.

§ It appears by this passage that these new fangled terms were not applied as I formerly supposed (see page 36 of Appendix to Select Letters) to ships of war, but to the small craft employed in commerce.

command, to our Presence, there to apply yourself ardently to the discharge of your duty [to us]. This is, therefore, written to inform you, that it is not necessary for you to proceed to the Presence. You must take post, (or remain) with your troops in the vicinity of Selamabad (Sattimungalam), and dispatch [from thence] with all speed, by two horsemen and a nukeeb, the intelligence of that quarter to the Presence.

Letter XXXIII.—To Meer Moaayen ûd Deen. Dated 16th of Râzy, or 6th of February, 1790.

"Keeping, with the forces under your command, in a state of preparation, you are to continue, [where you are]* and wait our [further] orders. [In the mean while] you must vigilantly observe on all sides of you, [the motions of] the Nazarenes (or English); and transmit constant reports [of the same] to the Presence abounding in benefits."

OBSERVATIONS.

The Sultan might well conceive that the English army would by this time have been put in motion, for the purpose of chastising his recent attack on the rajah of Travancore.—Owing, however, to the miserable counsels which at this period directed the government of Fort St. George, the English army still remained quietly in its cantonments.

Letter XXXIV.—To Mahommed †Riza Bukhshy of the 1st. Uskur Kuchurry. Same Date.

"Holding yourself with the troops under your command, in readiness; and attending to the shoeing of the horses [of your Kuchurry] you are to wait the further orders of the presence.

MEMORANDUM.

Similar instructions to the above were transmitted under the same date to

Haazim Ali Khan Bukhshy of the 2d. Uskur Kuchurry.

Khâjeh Aftâb Khan do. of the 3d do.

Mahommed Ali Khan do. of the 4th do.

And Meer Fukhrûddeen do. of the 5th do.

Orders of a correspondent nature were addressed to

Murze Bâker Baig, Bukhshy of the 4th Jyshe Kuchurry.

Húsaing Baig, do. of the 5th do.

Mahommed Baig and Meer Huassut Khan Bukhshies of the 6th do.

Syed Ulla ûd Deen, and Sukhawut Ali Khan, Bukhshies of the 7th do.

These last four letters contain an additional instruction, purporting that the commanders addressed, were to supply themselves immediately from the public stores with such tents, or other articles of equipment, as they might require.

Ghûlûm Mohyûd Deen Khan Bukhshy of the 3d, suwâr (cavalry) Kuchurry, and Mahommed Mukhdoom, Bukhshy of the 4th suwâr Kuchurry, are directed to assemble and keep their respective corps together; to hold themselves and troops in constant readiness; and to wait for further orders.

Behadur Khan the Kulaader of Kishngeery is directed to be prepared and vigilant, and to transmit regularly to the presence the intelligence of the adjacent parts (meaning, of course, the Carnatic.

Fuzl Ali Khan of the Sudoor (or ordnance and garrison department of Khoda-âbâd‡(—) is directed to see that the several forts belonging to his jurisdiction are duly provided with all the necessary warlike stores; as guns, muskets, powder and shot, provisions, &c. He is moreover ordered to

* Meer Moaayen ûd Deen, was at this time at Khâlikabad (See Letter 36).

† Probably the person commonly called the Binky Nabob, whose proper name was Mahommed Riza.

‡ I am ignorant what place is meant by this new-fangled name, but the context denotes that it is a seaport of Canara.

apply without delay to the different asofs and aumils for such articles as it may be in their province to supply; and to report his proceedings to the resplendent presence.

Similar instructions appear to have been sent on the same day to the Sudoor of Bangalore, and to Ushruf Ali Khan the asof of Jumâlâbad, to the latter of whom the following separate letter was also addressed.

Letter XXXV.—To Ushruf Ali Khan dated 16th Râzy or 6th of February, 1790.

All the *trading* vessels belonging to the Sircar, and now lying at [anchor at] Khoosh-hâlpoor and Kûriâl are to be thus disposed of. The guns and other heavy stores belonging to these ships are to be [disembarked and] lodged in the Fort of Jamâlâbad, after which the vessels at Khoosh-hálpoor, are to be dispatched to Kutch, and those at Kûriâl to Muscat, where positive orders are to be sent for their being drawn on shore, and kept till the ensuing season, you are at the same time to write to our commercial agents at those places, directing them to supply the people belonging to the ships with sufficient money for their necessary expences.

An order of the same tenor and date follows, addressed to Mahommed Syeed the Taulûkdâr of Koosh-halpoor. By a memorandum added at the foot of the letter, it appears that the vessels lying at this time at Koosh-halpoor, consisted only of

7 Uliâsies or Dows
1 Khizry or Dingy
1 ———[*]
and 1 Buttailah or Puttaila.

Next follows a similar order to Ghûlâm Mahommed Taulûkdâr of Kuriâl (Mangalore) to which is also subjoined a memorandum purporting that the vessels to be sent off to Muscat were

8 Uliâsies
and 2 Khizries.

These directions related exclusively to the Sultan's trading vessels. The ships of war had been previously ordered to proceed to Chowgaut.

Letter XXXVI.—To Ghûlâm Mohy ûd Deen, Bukhshy of the 3d Suwâr (Cavalry) Kuchurry, dated 20th of Razy, or 10th Feb. 1790.

"Taking all the cavalry under your command along with you, you must proceed and join Meer Moaazen ud Deen at Khâlikâbad,† and act according to his directions in all the affairs of the Sircar; you must moreover, regularly report to us the state of things in that quarter. A letter for the aforesaid Meer is enclosed which you are to deliver to him. Give orders to the people under you to abstain from all acts of violence and oppression, and to supply themselves with fuel and forage from the waste parts of the country.‡

Next follows a letter of the same tenor, and date to Moaazen ûd Deen.

Letter XXXVII.—To Behadur Khan, Kulaader of Kishugeery, same date.

"The Bukhshy of the 4th Suwâr (Cavalry)§ Kuchurry, with the troops attached to him, has been sent [to reinforce you]. You must see that the troops of the Sircar are encamped on the plain, and report the same to us. Let them be supplied with fuel and forage from the uncultivated country; and take care that no one commits violence or injury upon any of the inhabitants of the Sircar's dominions."

* The name by which this vessel is distinguished is not legible.

† I am ignorant of the situation of this place, which does not appear (at least under this new name) in any of our maps.

‡ Original, صحرا an uncultivated plain; a desert.

§ Elsewhere called Mahommed Mukhdoom.

Next follows a letter to Boodhun Shah Kâdiry,* dated 23d Râzy, or 13th Feb. 1790. desiring his prayers for the success of the Sultan's arms, and the prosperity of the Mahommedan cause.

" It appears by a letter of the 24th of Razy, or 14th of February, that the Sultan at this time gave orders for the erection of a factory at Jumnagr, and another at Mumdry."†

LETTER XXXVIII.—To the Daroghа of the ships at Khoosh Hâlpoor, dated 25th of Râzy, or 15th of Feb. 1790.

" At this time, Monsieur Mac Namara, a French officer, (or commander) of rank, is arrived with two ships at the port of Mahé, where he waits our permission for his proceeding to pay his respects to the presence. You will, therefore, dispatch with speed, by sea, to make the enclosed Hindry letter for the afore-aid commander, to whom let it be intimated at the same time, that a man of rank belonging to the Usud Ilhye Sircar has been dispatched to meet and conduct him [to court].

LETTER XXXIX.—To Kureem Saheb,‡ dated 25th of Râzy, or 15th Feb. 1790.

" Your humble address has come under our enhobling inspection. Always regarding our holy mind as anxious to receive accounts of you, let us be regularly (or constantly) delighted and rejoiced by advices of the health and welfare of yourself and family.§

LETTER XL.—To Khâjeh Aftâb Khan, Bukhshy of the 3d Uskur Kuchurry, dated 28th of Râzy, or 18th Feb .1790.

" You are to proceed with the troops under your command to Ryacottah, and there establishing yourself, remain vigilant at your post; as a rupture with the Nazarenes (i. e. the English) has taken place. Enclosed is an order which you will transmit to the Asof of Kishngeery, from whom you are regularly to demand the necessary supplies of corn for your horses. Upon your arrival at the aforesaid place, you are to encamp at the foot of the pass in a spot affording abundance of pasture: and here you are to keep all the four mokubs (or regiments composing your corps) united together; advising us constantly in detail (or circumstantially) of the state of your supplies in grain and forage. If the army of the enemy should make its appearance on the frontier, you must in the first instance advise us [immediately] thereof; and afterwards send some of your own people every second or third day for intelligence to the Asof and Kulaader of Kishngeery.

A great number of letters of the same date as the preceding one follow here; in all of which war with the English is spoken of as either actually commenced, or on the eve of taking place. This intimation is, however, accompanied in most of them by a direction *to keep the matter secret;* but for what reason this injunction was added does not appear. It may either have been given with the view of preventing any alarm (especially among the inhabitants of these parts of his dominions adjacent to the English territories) which might have had a tendency to obstruct the collection of the land revenue; or it may have proceeded from a desire of keeping the British government as long as possible in ignorance of his warlike preparations and movements, which he must have been conscious

* This was a person of the religious order, whose prayers Tippoo appears to have frequently solicited. I am ignorant where his residence was; and whether or not he was a subject of the Sultan.

† I believe these are sea-port towns in the gulph of Sinde.

‡ Kureem Saheb was the only brother of Tippoo. This is the second complimentary letter which appears addressed to the same person.

§ Literally, *the great and small* (or, *old and young*).

were entirely at variance with the professions of peace and amity which he still continued to make to that government.

The chief persons to whom the letters here referred to were written, are—

1. Imâm Baig, the Asof of Kishngeery, who, besides being instructed to the same effect as Khâjeh Aftâb Khan, is directed to lay in a large stock of grain for the use of the cavalry.

2. Mahommed Ali Khan Bukhshy, of the 4th Uskur Kuchurry, who is directed to repair with the troops composing his kuchurry to Bangalore, and there deliver to the Asof of that place the letter enclosed. He is informed that he is to draw all his supplies for the use of the horses of the Sircar from the aforesaid Asof. He is, moreover, enjoined to take due care that the horses are regularly fed: and he is finally instructed to station one of the Mokubs forming his kuchurry at Khan Khanhully; a second at Little Balapoor; another at Bâgloor; and the fourth at Hooscottah.

3. Rajah Ram Chundur, Asof of Bangalore, who is instructed to the same effect as the Bukhshy Mahommed Ali.

4. Ulla ûd Deen, Asof of Husn ûl Anzeem (Ganjicotah) who, besides being directed to see that all the forts included in his jurisdiction are supplied with the necessary warlike stores, (as powder, shot, grain, &c.) is enjoined to leave as small balances of revenue as possible in the districts under him, and to remit his collections with speed to Seringapatam.

5. Wully Mahommed Foujdâr, of Chittledoorg, who is directed to keep the whole of his force united together.

6. The Kullaader of Ununtgeery.

7. Mahommed Mahdy, Asof of Zufrabad (Gurramcoondah). 8. Meer Khynoobah, Sudoor of Jumalabad. 9. Behadar Khan, Kulaader of Kishngeery. 10. Hûsain Ali Khan, the son of Kûtb ûd Deen Khan. 11. Meer Ali Nuky, Sudoor of Zufrabad.

Intermixed with the foregoing letters there are others which, besides the general notice they convey of the approach of hostilities with the English, contain some particular directions not included in the former. They all, however, bear the same date. Of these the most curious or important are,

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LETTER XLI.—To the Kulaader of Khummum: dated 18th of February, 1790.

"War with the infidel Nazarenes is about to commence. You must [therefore] lose no time in placing your stores [of every sort] including powder and shot, in a good and proper condition; and you must keep every thing ready [for service.] Remain watchful at your post, and preserve secrecy with respect to the news of war. If, which God forbid! any time in the night, or during the day, a Nazarene force should approach your fort *deceitfully*, and say, "this is a force belonging to the Sircar, and is come to your assistance. Give us leave, therefore, to approach"—you must not act upon such an assurance, or allow any person to come near [the place;] but are to send word to them by one or two of your people, that they must encamp at the distance of cannon shot, and from thence transmit to you the mandate of the Sircar bearing our seal and signature. If, upon this, they should send you a mandate with a signature and seal [apparently, or resembling ours,] affixed thereto, you must examine [closely] whether the said signature and seal, as well as the hand writing of the Mûnshy,* be according to usage; and if, *on consulting* with the Sirdars (officers) under you, there should appear to be no doubt with regard to the [authenticity of the] mandate, you must act in conformity with it: but if [on the other hand] it should turn out to be an imposture,† you are to punish

* It was probably usual for all letters to particular departments or officers to be constantly written by the same Munshy or secretary; in which case his hand-writing would be familiar to the persons addressed.

† Original, خطا, a mistake; an error; a fault, crime, &c. but evidently used here for a trick, forgery, or imposture.

[the impostors.] *Keep the report of war secret.*

OBSERVATIONS.

The foregoing is as literal a translation of this extraordinary letter as could be given. The instructions contained in it were not confined to the Kulaader of Khummum, but were also transmitted to the Kulaaders of Khoda-abad and Kunuckgeery and Kishngeery, and probably to the governors of other frontier places. Notwithstanding the confusion and indistinctness which pervade this composition, the meaning of the writer is sufficiently apparent. He sets out, it is true, with the assumption that the troops in question *actually* belong to an enemy; but he subsequently adapts his orders to meet the possible case of their being his own. This sort of perplexity is frequently observable in the writings of the Sultan: but not so much in his letters as in his other productions.

LETTER XLII.—To Mahomed Ali Khan Jhuluk Asof of Khoorshaid Suwad;* same date.

"You must send to the Asof of Nugr for fifty thousand utls of black pepper, and dispose of the same at the rate of two rahities (rupees) and seven fanams [the utl;] that being the price which we have fixed on it. The whole being sold at this rate, let the produce thereof be dipatched separately to the royal residence, Putn. A letter is enclosed to the address of the Asof of Nugr to whom you are to forward it, and to whom you will also apply for the pepper [in question.] You must moreover *enjoin* the merchants and dealers of all the large marts in that quarter, to purchase this pepper and dispose of it again, either in the Sircar's dominions, or in foreign parts."

OBSERVATIONS.

A letter to the same effect as the foregoing one, was dispatched to Mahommed Ghous, the Asof of Nugr, and another to the officer at the head of the Mullikut Tujah, or commercial department at Calicut; the latter containing an additional clause purporting that no pepper was on any account to be reserved. This direction was probably given with a view to preventing its falling eventually into the hands of the English.

LETTER XLIII.—To Fuzl Ali Khan, Sudoor of Khoda-abad: same date.

"A rupture with the Nazarenes is at this time about to take place. You must [therefore] be vigilant at your post, and apply yourself diligently to the business of putting all the forts depending on your Kuchurry (department) in a proper state [of defence.] Let the families, moreover, of the several Aumils and Kilaaders be dispatched to Putn, (Seringapatam;) and *enjoin*† the Asof of that place (Khoda-abad) to be expeditious in realizing the revenue, and in transmitting the same [to us.] Keep the intelligence of the war secret.

OBSERVATIONS.

Most of the letters which immediately follow here under the same date, contain similar directions to those given in the foregoing one, respecting the families of the various Kilaaders and other officers holding situations of trust. The orders for expediting the collections and for dispatching the amount to Seringapatam are likewise repeated in several of them.

* This is another of the Sultan's new-fangled names; but I am ignorant to what place it was given.

† Original, تاکید نمودن It might be inferred from this expression, that the Asof was subject to the authority of the Soodoor; but I think it more probable that the compound verb تاکید نمودن *tâ Keed numodum*, is here employed with a latitude not usual; and that it may mean *to urge* or *press*, rather than *to order*, which is its ordinary acceptation.

Letter XLIV.—To Syed Mahommed Kulaader of Putn : same date.

" Make out and transmit [to us] a list of the English Ahmedies, distinguishing the station* of each [individual.]

OBSERVATIONS.

As hostilities had not actually taken place between the English and Tippoo at the date of this letter, the English Ahmedies mentioned in it must, necessarily have been among the survivors of those Europeans who had been made prisoners during the former, or Hyder's war. This document, therefore, not only clearly establishes, on the Sultan's own explicit authority, the important fact of his having detained, in violation of the treaty of Mangalore, sundry British subjects who had fallen into his hands in the course of the war terminated by that treaty; but it also indubitably proves that many of those unfortunate men had been either forcibly circumcised, or been driven by despair to embrace the Mahomedan religion, the converts to which, whether compulsory or voluntary, were distinguished by the designation of Ahmedies.†

We are not in possession of any clue to the precise object of the Sultan in the foregoing order. It is, however, but too probable that it was preparatory to the general destruction of the English prisoners then in his power : since the few released at the capture of Shehr Gunjam, on the 6th of February, 1792, as well as those delivered up in consequence of the treaty of peace, which followed soon after, consisted (with the exception, I believe, of no more than one or two persons) entirely of men who had been taken in the course of the recent war. It is, no doubt, possible that many of the individuals alluded to in the letter before us might have been still living in confinement at the close of the war, within the walls of Seringapatam and of other forts, of whose existence it was not in the power of the English to obtain any satisfactory information : but, whatever was the case at that time, it is at least certain that none of these unhappy men were surviving at the period of the fall of Seringapatam.

Observations *on the* Oriental Apologue; *by* James Ross, Esq. *formerly of Dinagepore in Bengal.*

[The following valuable contribution is an *extract* from a *Manuscript Life of* Sadi. It is confined principally, as the reader will observe, to the illustration of the genius and writings of the Poet and Moralist, and more especially of the nature and end of the *Persian Apologue.* This favourite vehicle of instruction in the Eastern world is pursued from its ruder beginning to its more perfect and polished form; and its usefulness is exemplified in many striking and remarkable instances, which are brought to the recollection of the reader by numberless quotations, evincing not less pains in the writer's research, than felicity in the application. From the early blossom, we may judge of the coming fruit, and anticipate most favourably of the remainder of this ingenious essay, from the erudite and elegant specimen now in our hands.]

Eastern governments are despotic; and a historian truly to detail the public and private lives of past despots, has to dwell on events, which must

* Original, عهده which also signifies, office or employment.

† There is reason to believe, that the appellation of *Ahmedies* was confined to European or Christian converts; and that the Hindoos, who were compelled to become mussulmans were called *Usud Ilyhes* and *Mahommedies.*—The latter name, however, seems to have been more especially applied to the Nair converts.

necessarily grate the heart perhaps of his patron the reigning despot. Accordinglyin the East men of genius have turned their minds to fiction, and thus have rendered their well-told stories equally instructing and entertaining as common history; for while this with us in Europe has been too often filled with obscurities, defects and contradictions, to the fables of the East we have no such relations of events to oppose, as have appeared to other writers through different mediums: in history partiality tells us one story, and antipathy another; but in the relation of a professed fable it were idle to set one fiction in opposition to another.

An Apologue or fable was the first specimen, perhaps, of wit that man in his rude state made use of; and has been long esteemed in the East, because of its peculiar safety in amusing the old and instructing the young, after they became polite. There indeed it is at this day as often had recourse to, as it was in the days of a Lucman or an Esop. Like some fablists in Europe, Orientalists pretend not to distinguish between a story and a tale, an apologue and a fable, or an allegory and a parable, but like as they are found in *Sadi* they are mingled indiscriminately; and they make—non tantum feræ, sed etiam arbores—not only beasts, but even stocks and stones speak with a human interest and feel ing, and render them the mediums of conveying the most striking truths of common life, morality and prudence. Yet they consider that—

Ficta, voluptatis causâ, sunt proxima veris:
Fictions to please should bear the face
of truth;

and are accordingly most partial to the more natural commerce of human beings, as more consonant to historical probability. They address their apologues either to the understandings or the passions, or to both jointly. Those of *Sadi* are chiefly preceptive, and contain but a single precept or event. He tells us,—'I never complained of my wretched and forlorn condition, but on one occasion, when my feet were naked and I had not wherewithal to shoe them. Soon after meeting a man without feet, I was thankful for the bounty of Providenee to myself, and with perfect resignation submitted to my want of shoes.' Yet in his story of the *Santon Barsisa*, where different characters are conducted through a variety of events, where a diversity of precept is introduced as applicable to the characters and circumstances, or where the passions are of course excited, the moral, however complicated, is recollected and carried on without trouble or confusion. This story is to be found in No. 148 of the Guardian; and it forms the basis of that popular romance the Monk. The following is a verbal translation from the fifth sermon of Sadi, in which, with many ingenious and applicable stories, it is according to the oriental custom quoted as a parable.

"It is related, that among the children of Israel there was a holy man, of the name of *Barsisa*, who for forty years had lived apart from mankind, and detached from the world and its vain pursuits. He had spent his whole life in counting his beads, and in acts of piety, and in holding supplication and intercourse with the deity. The appetite of inordinate desire he had eradicated with the knife of self-denial, and the seed of godly zeal he had sown in the field of divine inspiration. Were you to soar into the etherial regions, till you brought the ninth heaven into your view, or penetrate into the bowels of the earth till you saw the backs of the bull and tortoise, he possessed such probity, faith, and good works, as would weary the most eloquent tongue to detail them, and commanded such praiseworthy and excellent qualifications as would puzzle the nicest fancy to unravel them. And every year many thousands of the distempered and infirm, the sickly and ailing, would collect on the plain around his cell, some covered with the leprosy, and blind from the mother's womb, others hectic, dropsical, and jaundiced; the whole would lay themselves under his cell; and when the luminary of day would display his glorious countenance in the east, and the sun unfurl the standard of his splendour over the

face of the globe, then would *Barsisa* walk forth on the terrace of his cell, breathe a single breath of blessing over them, and cure them in an instant of all their disorders. Most wonderful of works, that publicly he should have thrown open upon him the gate of such treasured benevolence, yet in secret was the arrow of separation laid on the bow of his rejection; that at first he should outwardly appear a lovely picture, yet hiddenly was a carcase mangled with the sword of disapprobation; and that to the eye he seemed, alas! pure as virgin silver, yet internally was his intrinsic value debased with an alloy. In the exultation of his heart that wretched man would address himself and say, 'Verily who am I?' and strutting vauntingly abroad exclaim, 'am I not a credit to God Almighty?' Little was he in the mean time aware that it had been recorded on the tablet of the last tribunal: 'thou meetest no approbation with me.'—Acts ii 23. In the process of time the devil secretly was laying under the floor of his cell a train of temptation and chain of machination, that on some unpropitious moment the thorn of bad luck might, intentionally or not, entangle itself perhaps in the skirt of his garment. The wrath and indignation of the devil was daily getting more inflamed against him, while the grove of his obedience to God blossomed fuller with good works; till at length that the daughter of the reigning king fell ill of so dangerous a malady, that all the faculty despaired of her cure. And this damsel had three brothers, all of them governors of distant provinces. And they all three dreamt on the same night, that it behoved them to report their sister's illness to *Barsisa*. Next day they communicated their dreams to one another, and their accounts agreeing in every circumstance, every one exclaimed to himself, 'it is my dream precisely.' They accordingly proceeded to the capital, and took along with them their beautiful sister unto the holy man's cell. *Barsisa* was occupied at prayer.—After he had finished, they intreated his assistance for their sister, and detailed to him their respective dreams. *Barsisa* said, 'there is a stated time for supplication, when God is peculiarly propitious to petitions; when that time shall come I will not be sparing of my prayers.' Then the royal brothers left their sister in the charge of the holy man, and betook themselves unto the sports of the field. When the wily devil found they were gone, he said, 'now is my opportunity of plunging the faith and soul of *Barsisa's* prolonged period of righteousness in the tempestuous ocean of lust.' Accordingly blowing a breath of stupefaction on the brain of that modest virgin, she staggered, and fell senseless to the floor, so as to allow the holy man's eye to catch a glimpse of her unveiled charms. The devil heaped the fuel of temptation on the fire of sensuality, and the flame of concupiscence burnt fiercely throughout the saint's frame; then did the hand of impetuosity and desire draw the mask of presumption and indifference over his heart and mind, so that the carnal appetite domineered, the machinations of Satan commenced their operations, and the crime of fornication speedily contaminated his body. At that juncture the devil made his appearance before the altar of his cell in the figure of an old man, and questioned the particulars of what had befallen him. *Barsisa* related all that had passed. The devil replied, 'O, *Barsisa*! be of good cheer, for sin is natural to man, the most high God is merciful, and the door of repentance open; yet were it prudent to keep this statement for the present a secret from her brothers.' *Barsisa* said, 'Alas! alas! how can we daub the sun's orbit over with clay, or hide the bright face of day from such as have eyes to behold it?' The devil replied, 'that as I can teach you, O *Barsisa*! may very readily be done; let the damsel be slain, and her body buried under ground; and when the brothers return and enquire after her, you can tell them you were busy at prayer when she took her departure, and know not what became of her.'

Thus just as the accursed devil had advised him, *Barsisa* murdered the princess, and carrying her body outside his cell, buried it under ground. Soon after the three brothers, courageous as lions, and nobly attended, having returned from the hunt, presented themselves before the hermit's cell, and enquiring for their sister, concluded they had only to ask his blessing, and take her away cured of her distemper; but on not meeting her ready to attend them, they asked the hermit after her. He answered them verbatim as the devil had instructed him; and, as a matter of course, believing what so sanctified a man told them, they took his blessing and their leave. They were proceeding towards the city, and expecting every step to overtake their sister, when the evil-minded devil, having in the mean time transformed himself into a decrepid old woman, with a staff in her hand, and a handkerchief round her head, met them by the way. They questioned her and said, 'good woman, did you meet a lady on this road of such a figure and description?' She replied, "you are perhaps seeking the daughter of the reigning king?' They said, 'the same.' The pretended old woman fell a weeping, and sobbed aloud. The brothers of the princess suspected all was not right. They added, 'be circumspect in what you have to state, for our minds cruelly misgive us from what you have already insinuated.' The old woman gave a freedom to her tongue and replied, 'that personage whom you recommended to his care on setting forth on your sports, the hermit defiled; after that he committed murder on her body, and has hid her under the place where he prostrates himself at prayer.' Then taking them along with her, she proceeded to the grave of their sister, which they dug up, and found the body fresh murdered, and still weltering in its blood. Upon which they rent the garments from their bodies, and, in the grief of so horrible an event, cast ashes on their heads. After that they put a halter round *Barsisa's* neck, and led him towards the city; while a crowd gathered from all quarters expressing their astonishment how such a series of events could have come to pass. They then caused a gibbet to be erected, and brought *Barsisa* under it; and, whatever intercession the holy men of the city would set on foot to get him released from punishment, they would not listen to their solicitations, but had him hung upon the gallows in the most ignominious manner; and such as heretofore would have considered it as a blessing to catch the water he had used in his ablutions, and apply it to the same precious purpose they would rose-water; and would have esteemed the dust of his shoes as a collyrium fit to be applied only to their eyes, were crowded round him with their skirts filled with stones, that they might hurl them at his head with curses. In this state of matters the devil presented himself before the gallows, under the figure of a reverend old man, with his head illuminated with rays of glory and said, 'O, *Barsisa*! I am the God of this earth, and that is the God of heaven, whom you have served for a series of years, and who has permitted you to be overtaken with this calamity; and in recompence of such a continued and faithful obedience has left you to perish on a gallows; shew me only one sign of adoration, that I may deliver you from so ignominious an exit. With a motion of his brow *Barsisa* made a sign of worshipping the accursed devil; when that instant a voice descended from the seventh heaven, announcing, 'Let this man perished as he is in this world and the next, be utterly annihilated; let his soul sink down to hell, his carcase be cast unto the dogs, and his brain become the portion of the fowls of the air.'

The abstract and substance of this apologue is, that God, who is Lord of all things, and who is perfectly just and supremely good, may express his displeasure on whom he pleases; and that man has no reason to complain, though—" the last shall be first, and the first last; for many be called, but few chosen." Matthew xx. 16. "What shall we say then? Is there

unrighteousness with God? God forbid:—Even for this purpose have I raised thee up, that I might show my power in thee, and that my name might be declared throughout the earth;—therefore hath he (God) mercy, on whom he will have mercy; and whom he will, he hardeneth." Rom. ix. 14 and 18.

L'Estrange, Fable 217—Folio Edition, tells us:—"After laughing at her toil all the summer, a grasshopper wanted to borrow some grain of an ant during the winter." "Tell me," asks the ant, "what you did during the summer?" "I sung;" replied the grasshopper. "Indeed!" said the ant, "then you may dance during the winter." In order to recommend and inculcate industry, Sadi introduces into the 1st sermon of his 1st Risallah, in the form also of a parable, the following beautiful apologue.

It is related, that a nightingale had built its nest on the bough of a rose bush in a garden; and at the root of that same tree, a poor little ant happened to dig itself a hole, and managed, as it best could, to store with provision this wretched hut of care. Day and night would this nightingale be fluttering through the rose bower, and tuning the barbut of its soul-deluding music; and whilst the ant was hourly occupied in industry, that thousand-songed bird would be fascinated with its own sweet melody, amidst the groves of this garden. The nightingale was whispering its secret to the rose, and that, full blown by the morning Zephyr, was ogling it in return. The poor little ant could not help admiring the coquettish airs of the rose, and the blandishments of the nightingale; and incontinently saying: "time can alone disclose what may be the end of all this coquetry and fuss." When the flowery season of the summer was gone, and the bleak cold of winter approaching, thorns succeeded to the roses, and the raven took the perch of the nightingale; the storms of autumn came raging along, and the foliage of the grove was shed upon the ground; the cheek of the leaf was turned yellow, and the breath of the wind was cold and chilling; the gathering clouds poured down hailstones like pearls, and flakes of snow floated like camphor on the bosom of the air. Suddenly the nightingale returned into the garden, but he met neither the bloom of the rose, nor the fragrance of the hyacinth. And, notwithstanding his thousand-songed tongue, he stood stupified and mute; for he could discover no flower, whose form he might admire, nor any verdure, whose freshness he might enjoy. The thorn addressed him, and said: — "O silly bird! how long wouldst thou court the society of the rose? now is the season, that, in the absence of thy mistress, thou must put up with the soul-rending bramble of separation." The nightingale looked around him on the world, but could no where discern any means of sustenance. Thus destitute of food, his strength failed him fast, and in his helpless state he could in no way earn himself a livelihood. He recollected himself, and said:—"in former days an ant had her hut under this tree, and was industrious in laying up for herself a store of grain. I will submit to her my wants, and in the name of good neighbourhood, and a sense of what is right, beg some relief; perhaps she may compassionate my distress, and bestow some charity upon me." Like a suppliant the half-famished nightingale proceeded towards the door of the ant's hut, and said:—"Generosity is the harbinger of prosperity, O capital stock of good luck; unfortunately I was wasting my precious life in idleness, whilst thou wert making thyself a provision, and laying up a hoard; how considerate and good of thee, wouldst thou now spare me a little of it." The ant replied:—"Night and day thou wert engaged in idle conversation; and I was occupied industriously, and providing for a bad day; one day thou wert distracted with the smiling blandishments of the rose, and the next, giddy with admiring the blossoming spring; wert thou not aware that every summer has its fall,

and every long and heavy journey a stage of rest and tranquillity?"

This familiar fable is a simple and forcible illustration of the principle of productive and unproductive labor, so eloquently detailed by Adam Smith in his Wealth of Nations. The industry of the ant was accumulated value, which she hoarded and preserved against the distresses and severities of the winter; but the song of the nightingale, though amusing for a time, left no provision for the hour of need, and change of season; it was neither tangible nor transferable. The laws of nature point out to man that practicable maxim of Saint Paul, Eph. iv. 28. "If a man will not work, neither shall he eat;"—nor is he rashly to trust to providence; for, Acts xx. 35. "It is more blessed (to be able) to give than to receive; as it is shewn by another apologue of *Sadi*, that:—"no life is pleasing to God, but what is usefully employed."

Bustan II. 18. A holy man met a fox that had no feet, and stopt in admiration of the handiwork of God, saying to himself; whence does this creature derive a livelihood, or how procure for itself food without hands and feet? The astonished good man stood wrapt up in this thought, when a lion bounded before him holding a jackall in one of his paws; this wretched victim served the lion for a meal, and enough remained to satisfy the fox's wants. Next day he witnessed a like event come to pass, for it seemed fit to providence thus to supply the fox with food; faith made the holy man's eyes sparkle with hope, and he forthwith resolved to put his whole trust in God, saying, "henceforward I will sit retired in a corner like an ant, for even an elephant cannot force a livelihood by main strength." Then for a length of time he sat with his chin leaning on his breast, and expecting how providence might supply him from his secret store. Neither stranger nor kinsman sympathised with his sufferings, when his sinews, bones, and skin, had shrunk like a fiddle. Now that from sheer weakness of his body, he had lost all feeling and patience, a voice addressed him from the altar of his cell, saying: "rise, O sluggard! and be that destructive lion, and mortify not thyself like the palsied fox: so exert thy industry, that thou mayst abound like the lion, for why should'st thou put up with leavings like the fox?" God thus bestows his bounty on that his chosen servant, whose life becomes the medium of his fellow creature's well being."

In the *Annowari Sohaili*, or Persian copy of *Bidpai's* fables, this story is told of a falcon and rook; and in No. 38 of the Adventurer, Dr. *Hawkesworth* has turned this falcon into an eagle, and joined to it, not very naturally, Sadi's fox: yet I know not through what channel he reached them, but the doctor is original, and most happy in all his oriental apologues.

In the beautiful language of our Scriptures, life is often termed a pilgrimage; and we that are passing through it, are called strangers and sojourners on this earth. In Risallah II. sermon 4, Sadi tells us:

"That Noah, at the age of twelve hundred, was asked: "how he, who was the oldest of the prophets, had found this world?" He replied: "like a house with two doors:—at one of which I entered, and shall soon leave it by the other."

"Like pilgrim's to th' appointed place we tend,
The world's an inn, and death's our journey's end."

In No. 289 of the Spectator, that *Raphael*, as *Johnson* styles him, of essay-writing, *(Addison)* has, through Sir *John Chardin*, copied with his usual taste and judgment, the following parable of *Sadi* on the Instability of this life. Rissalah II. Sermon 4.

One day, *Ibrahim Idham*, king of Balkh, was sitting in the porch of his palace with all his ministers and retinue standing by him in attendance, when behold! a poor dervis with a patched cloak, a scrip and a staff, presented himself, and was making his

way into Ibrahim's palace. The servants called to him and said: "reverend sir! whither art thou going?" he answered them: "I am going into this inn" They said: "this is the palace of the king of Balkh." The king desired they would allow him to approach; when he observed: "O dervis! this is my palace, and no inn." The dervis asked him: "O Ibrahim! whose house was this originally?" He replied: "the house of my grandfather." "And when he departed this life, whose house was it?" "My father's." "And when thy father died, whose did it become?" "It became mine." "And when thou also art gone, to whom will it belong?" "To the prince, my son." "The dervis now said: "O Ibrahim! a house which one man is after this manner entering, and another quitting, may be an inn, but is no palace or fixed habitation for prince, or common man."

"Ev'n kings but act their parts; and when
they've done,
Some other, worse or better, mount their
throne."

In No. 293 of the Spectator, *Addison* has again through Chardin, Itin. Persic. vol. III. 189, 4to. Amst. enriched his vernacular language, by copying the following parable on Humility, from Sadi's Bustan, IV. 2. It is understood in the East, that the pearl is originally formed in the oyster, from a drop of rain water having previously been caught by that animal. Conformably with this idea:—

"As a solitary drop of water was falling from the sky, it blushed when it came to see the huge extent of the sea, saying to itself: 'where this ocean is, what place is left for me, if that immense body of water be present, my god! what an inconsiderable atom of matter am I?' Whilst it was thus reviewing itself with an eye of humility, an oyster took it into its shell, and nourished it with its whole soul; fortune raised it soon into an exalted station, for it ripened soon into a precious pearl, and became the chief jewel in the imperial crown of Persia."

The luxurious frequenters of an Eastern public bath, can, in their loitering idleness, draw Satan with cloven feet, horns, and other features as hideous as the devil of our nurseries. Yet, like *Milton's, Sadi's Satan* was really handsome.

——"He above the rest
In shape and stature, proudly eminent,
Stood like a tower: his form had yet not lost
All her original brightness, nor appeared
Less than arch angel ruin'd, and th' excess
Of glory obscur'd ——."

In Bustan I. 6, Sadi says:—"I know not where I read it in a book that a person saw the devil in a dream; he had the stature of a cypress, and the eyes of a huri of Paradise, and his face was like the sun encircled with rays of glory. He gently went up to him and said: 'can this possibly be you; never did any angel appear more handsome or lovely? Why should mankind make your deformity proverbial throughout the world, while you can show them this face which is splendid as a full moon? Why in the palace of our sovereign the king, has the painter given you a distorted, ugly, and forbidding visage? They recognise your face with horror and disgust, and represent you on the walls of the public baths hideous to common decency.' The ill-omened demon listened to these words, and replied to them in a vexed and exulting tone of voice, saying: 'My well-disposed friend! that is no likeness of me, for the pencil that drew it was held in the hand of an enemy. I routed mankind of old forth from Paradise, therefore, in despite, they now paint me so ugly.'

My next quotation is from Bustan I. 11. and introductory, to as well-turned and spirited an apostrophe as that of *Virgil*, which *Seneca, Sadi's* favourite Latin author, tells us, operated so powerfully on the maternal feelings, and princely munificence of Octavia: yet the young and gay can best feel and enjoy it.

"Yesterday, I had my fill of wordly enjoyment, for claspt in my embrace, I held yon moon-faced charm-

er: verily, when I saw her head intoxicated with sleep, I said to her, the cypress, O my love! is not so stately as thou art: wash for an instant the drowsiness of inebriation from the narcissus of thine eye, smile graciously as the rose, and whisper melodiously as the nightingale: why liest thou asleep, O mischief of the age! rise and bring me that liquid ruby of thy lips for my drinking?"—Looking towards me with a soul-maddening glance she roused herself in reply; "thou art calling me mischief, yet forbiddest me to sleep." During the reign of our enlightened sovereign, nobody can witness any other waking mischief, but such as this!—

The Italian poet Guarini, would seem to copy the above sentiment:

> "Occhi, stelle mortali
> Ministri de miei mali
> Se chiusi m' accidete
> Apperti che ferete?"—

Of the above eight apologues, those of *Barsisa*, the Nightingale and Ant, Noah, and the Dervis mistaking a palace for an inn, are written in Persian prose; and those of the Fox without feet, the drop of water, the beauty of Satan, and the compliment to his sovereign in musnosi or couplets: and I know not in which *Sadi* most excels; for though I prefer prose, and particularly his prose relations of those fables, notwithstanding the two first have a dash of the Ibaruti Rungin or florid style, yet his narrative poetry is so familiar and easy, and the words deviate so little from their natural order, that it is equally perspicuous as the chastest prose. In contradiction to the alleged verbosity of modern Persian, let me state; that the apologue of the drop of water is told in five distiches, and consists altogether, of fifty Persian words: and the same fable as related by *Addison*, No. 293, Spectator, and surely not prolixly, comprehends nearly three times the number of English words. Indeed, in my translation of Sadi's works, I have often found myself complaining of the conciseness of the narrative, and prolixity of the preceptive parts: yet on all occasions the narratives will be found sufficiently and distinctly detailed, the precepts included in the events, and the events related with such circumstances, as render their precepts succinctly evident.

I have amused myself with tracing a coincidence of many of our apophthegms and tales, with the apologues and fables of *Sadi*. To this easy and familiar manner of writing, may justly apply that saying of the wisest of men: "That there is nothing new under the sun:" Methodus sola artificem ostendit. "Fables," says Quintilian, "are, above all other literary compositions, calculated to win the hearts of the vulgar and illiterate; who delight in pleasing fictions, and are easily led away by a fascinating story." We recollect to this purpose, the mutiny of the Plebeians, who in their rage against the Patricians, had seceded from Rome; and their being brought back by the fable of the belly and members; when, had any body preached the same doctrine, in direct terms, the incensed rabble, instead of returning peaceably to the city, would probably have torn the daring orator into atoms. Tit. Liv: ii. 32. And when the *Samians*, were about to put to death a minister, who had abused the public trust, the counsel of *Esop* could not be mistaken, when he told them:—"A Fox would not suffer a swarm of flies, that had almost satiated themselves by sucking his blood, to be driven away, because a new swarm might settle upon him, and drain the little blood he had left in his carcase." Thus fables descend from one generation to another; and the same adventures, after making some allowance for season, age, climate, manners and religion, cause the instruction and entertainment of successive and remote nations. For the earliest and best, I would quote our own scriptures. Jotham's fable of the trees choosing a king, Judges, ix. 8. and 15.; and that of the poor man and his lamb, are admirable, whether we regard the simplicity of the narrative, or the morality of the application.

The parables of Sacred Writ, I revere, the apologues of *Sadi* and *Niza-*

'*mi*, I admire, but the fables of Esop and Phædrus, of Fontaine and Gay, have too much of artifice, and too little of common life, to please me. They are still more objectionable, where with our ancients and ourselves, the passions are made the actors; and virtue, vice, and other ideal objects, the persons of the drama: and more especially where the unchristian passion of revenge, is often encouraged, as a principle, and inculcated as a practice. After perusing the sublime pages of *Homer* and *Virgil*, and the witty lines of *Lucian* and *Ovid*, what character can we give of their mythology? As history it is absurd, as allegory inconsistent, and as a system of morality, loose and immodest. In their intercourse with each other, and with mankind, their gods are represented as unjust in their dealings, mutable in their designs, partial in their favours, ignorant of events, domineering over the unfortunate, vindictive, and grossly insolent to all. Were the passions intended to be personified, they ought to have been obvious at once, and not left like the غايب لسان Lesani Ghuib, or mystic language of Sufiasm, to be taken in a spiritual or carnal sense, as might suit the reader's fancy. The Persians have also the Shahnamah of *Ferdusi*, the Secunder-namah of *Nizami*, and other excellent heroic poems, which contain truer history, and are written with more consistency, perhaps, than our ancients, and certainly with less servility than our moderns of Europe, with the exception of our own *Milton*.

If another *L'Estrange* should make a collection of ancient and modern fables, a second folio volume might be collected from the apologues of the east, to which *Sadi* would contribute, perhaps, a half.—Wit is either serious, or comic; and orientalists deal more in the first than the last, for they put a higher value upon an apophthegm than a jest: they admire wisdom more than mirth, and we admire mirth more than wisdom: a wise saying, which they would greedily commit to writing, might pass unheeded by us; while a jest would rouse our attention, and excite our applause. Is this owing to our being so *wise*, as not to be electrified by a *spark* of *wisdom*, or so *foolish* as to be insensible to its *splendour*? Most men are fond of a jest, the vulgar of a coarse one, and the polite of what is delicate. But the instruction of an apophthegm enters deeper, and is more permanent in its effects: then it requires civilization and refinement, when it will reveal itself to the very soul of a great, and even excite that of a little man to virtue: like courage, a flash of this species of wit, will strike from mind to mind, and kindle throughout a whole nation the sympathetic fire of fellow sentiment. Above any other oriental writer *Sadi* excels, in serious humour, in his relation of an apologue; and by scattering the flowers of apophthegms, over the path of wisdom, has rendered his *Bustan*, *Gulistan*, and *Risallahs*, instructive and entertaining. His vth Risallah, consists entirely of maxims of advice, terminating in some lines of poetry, in which the same apophthegm, is often put in a different point of view, and has an epigrammical turn given to it: also the viiith chapter of his *Gulistan*; and his xxth. book of *Khubisaat* orimpurities, consists, entirely of jests, and some of them of the grossest, and most indelicate description. Like the orange tree, of his native city of Shiraz, the writings of Sadi bear flowers and fruits, and equally gratify the intellect with nourishment and fragrance, at all seasons. Besides those books of professed apophthegms, I might give to half the apologues of his *Bustan* and *Gulistan*, and the parables of his sermons, an epigrammical turn.

Lucman, the *Esop* of the east, being asked, of whom he learned wisdom, answered of the blind, who feel before they tread.

Being again asked, of whom he had learned manners, he answered, of the unmannerly, by avoiding what he saw coarse and improper in their behaviour.

On another occasion, he remarks, Bustan ix. 2:—It were better to cease to live, than to continue to live in sin.

Being desired to expostulate with

some highwaymen, who had plundered the caravan, with which he travelled, he replied; it were a pity to waste upon them the admonitions of wisdom.

Being like *Esop*, of a tawny complexion, *Lucman* was mistaken for a run-away slave, and sent a house-building in irons. After a time, the real slave was found; and on the master apologizing for what had befallen him, *Lucman* replied: "at home I have a slave, upon whom I often impose hard tasks, but, whenever I call to mind my late trouble of brick-making, I am not likely to be severe with him again." Bustan iv. 22.

Sadi says himself; "Once I could not help feeling for a slave, who was observing, while his indulgent master was bargaining for his sale; you may meet many a better servant, but I can never find so kind a master." Bustan iii. 12.

An ill-tempered gentleman had a slave still more violent than himself, and a friend advised him rather to part with such a slave for nothing, than, to put up with his ill humour. He replied: "his temper and disposition are sour enough, but my own temper has been much sweetened by my intercourse with him, for ever since I learned to bear with him, I can put up with every body's violence." Bustan iv. 11.

A poor man's ass, having stuck fast in a slough, and kept him all night exposed to the cold and rain, he fell a cursing both his friends and foes, and did not spare even the reigning sovereign, who happening to pass near him in the morning, overheard what he was saying. The royal attendants were in expectation, that such a reprobate would at least, have his tongue torn from his mouth; but the high-minded prince, allowed his anger to subside, and ordered him some money, a horse, and warm garment; and a courtier having congratulated the poor man on his lucky escape, he answered him, and said:—If in my grovelling meanness I complained vexatiously, in his magnanimous beneficence, my sovereign forgave me: it were easy to recompence evil with evil, but if a generous man you will repay good for evil." Bust. ii. 24.

The fourth hemistich of the original contains an Arabian proverb, and a literal translation of Μὴ νικῶ ὑπὸ τοῦ κακοῦ ἀλλὰ νῖκα ἐν τῶ ἀγαθῶ το κακον. Be not overcome with evil, but overcome evil with good. Romans xii. 21.

A minister of state argued a point of business before *Alexander* the *Great* with firmness, when the king turned sharply round upon him and asked: "Are you not afraid of me?"—He replied: "why should I be afraid? Has a man, conscious of his own righteousness, any occasion even to fear God? A servant like myself has to fear only treachery on his own part, or tyranny on that of his lord; and your obedient feels himself secure on both those scores." Risallah of advice to princes.

"God's holy will submissive I revere
And fearing him, disclaim all other fear."

Temperance and piety are highly commendable in kings, but not to such a severe degree, as to embitter their own lives, and make their dependants unhappy.

Such as are not inclined to hurt, fear not any body: a scorpion is full of mischief, and afraid of every living creature Let mankind ponder on the enormity of that tyrant's wickedness; the world remains, and he and his oppressed subjects have had respectively awarded to them their punishments and rewards.

That king's fame shall never die, who left behind him a bridge, a reservoir, a Khan and a Mahman-seray, or an hospital and place of resort for travellers; and it shows good sense in the sovereign or subject, not to anticipate his revenue of to-morrow, or to procrastinate his business of to-day.

A man left behind him an infant son, and a purse of gold; and the king sent to the guardian and demanded the money: accordingly, wrapping it up in the child's bosom he sent him to the king with this message: "the purse of gold is the property of this child, if you mean to take it, you must take it

from his own person, that you may again account to him for it on the day of judgment."

A vizier went to the prophet Jonas and asked his blessing, saying, "Day and night I am occupied in the service of my prince, hoping for his favour, and dreading his displeasure." The holy man wept and replied: "had I feared God, as you have done the king, I would long since have become one of the elect." Gulistan I. 32.

Thus Shakespeare:

"Had I serv'd my God with half the zeal
I serv'd my King, he would not in mine age
Have left me naked to mine enemies."

It were an easy task to separate the soul from the body, but you cannot so readily restore life to him, whom you have murdered: prudence would dictate to you caution in giving flight to the arrow, for if you let it once quit the bow, you cannot bring it back." Gulistan viii. 55.

Thus Cowley:

"Easy it were the living to have slain,
But bring them, if you can, to life again:
The arrow's shot: mark how it cuts the air,
Try now to bring it back, or stay it there;
That way impatience sent it, but thou'lt find
No track of it, alas! is left behind!"

Gold is extracted from the earth by digging into its bowels, and is torn from the grasp of misers by digging out their souls: misers spend not their money, but watch it with solicitude, saying that hope is preferable to waste; next day, behold! to the joy of their enemies, their gold remains and they have departed this life without having enjoyed it. Gulistan viii. 3.

Thus Pope:

"Damn'd to the mines, an equal fate betides
The slave that digs it (gold,) and the slave that hides."

The rich miser, and his hoards of gold and silver, are like the talismanic charms standing as a sentinel over a hidden treasure; therefore is his gold remaining unplundered for years, because this talisman is shaking its head over it like a snake; when God is pleased all at once to break this charm with the stone of death, and his heirs are left to portion out his wealth at their leisure. Bustan ii. 29.

The hypocrite is solely taken up about his sweet self, for he draws the veil of self-conceit across his own eyes. Were God to bestow upon thee, O vain man! his all-searching eye, thou would'st see none more pitiable than thyself. Gulistan ii. 7.

Thus Young:—

"Heav'n's sovereign saves all human beings but himself,
That hideous sight, a naked human heart."

Sadi says:—I have heard that a respectable man had delivered a sheep from the clutches of a wolf: and that same night he was sticking a knife into its throat, when the spirit of the sheep reproached him and said: "thou snatchedest me from the fangs of a wolf, and behold in the end thou hast proved thyself a wolf." Gulistan ii. 31.

Dr. Walcot says;

"I cannot meet the lambkin's asking eye,
Pat his soft cheek, and fill his mouth with food,
Then say, e'er evening cometh thou shalt die,
And drench the knives of butchers with thy blood."

Having been redeemed from captivity with the Franks at Tripoly, his benefactor moreover bestowed upon him his daughter in marriage, with a dowry of a hundred dinars; and this proving a termagant, tauntingly asked him; "if he was not the fellow her father had released from captivity for ten dinars," "yes," replied Sadi;" only to cast me into captivity with thee for a hundred."

An unjust king asked Sadi; "how can I employ myself better than in prayer?" He replied: "by laying in bed till noon, that mankind may during that short interval be released from thy tyranny." When Rolla is introduced by Elvira for the purpose of assassinating Pizarro, he discovers him asleep and exclaims: "This is the disturber of our peace: can this man really sleep?"

A wicked man blushed on reflecting on the righteousness of his pious

neighbour, when this asked him, "are you not ashamed of your own accord; for omniscience is every where and at all times present, and yet you are only ashamed at knowing, that I may chance to hear of your wickedness." Bustan ix. 24.

A weary traveller was lamenting the hardships of his journey, when his heavy-laden ass made answer: "Whether you are blind or deaf, or whatever be your mishap, thank God that you are a man, and not a burthen-bearing ass like me. Bust. viii. 12.

Lord Mansfield's allegation that, in special cases of calumny, the truth of a libel is no palliation of the offence, was not unnoticed by Sadi: "When you are industrious in noting another man's failings, though it be truth you are reporting, it is nevertheless a libel." And again:—"His sins were hurrying a wicked man to hell, for the cup of his life overflowed, and the black record of his infamy was filled; another person by libelling followed close behind him, and was saying; God forbid he should go alone to hell." Bustan vii. 11 and 15.

On the following subject our Historian Gibbon has made a moral reflection, and Sadi a pun:—A skull is supposed to rise from the bed of a river, and say: "Once I held in my hand the sceptre of authority, and wore on my brow the diadem of sovereignty: so long as my stars shone propitious, and fortune was my companion, I seized Irac with the arm of victory: I had become ambitious also of subduing Carmania, when behold the carman or worms seized upon my own brain." He can likewise mingle morality with his conceits and quibbles:

During his travels Sadi met Khaujah Humam, a contemporary poet, a native of the place, at the publick bath at Tubreir (Tauris.) The latter asked him, whence he came. He replied from Shiraz. "It is singular," said Humam," that in my city the Shirazians should be more than the dogs and cats." "In my city," replied Sadi, "it is the reverse, for there the Tubreirians are less!"—Like many of his townsmen Sadi was bald: Humam, turning his brass ewer, he was using as is customary in oriental ablution, upside down, asked Sadi: "how comes it that the head of a Shirazian should resemble this utensil?" Sadi promptly answered him by presenting his own with the *empty mouth* upwards: "Why is the head of a Tubrian so very like this?"

A merchant said to his son; "let not any body know, that I lost a thousand dinars by a late speculation." "Why?" replied the boy. "Because," said the father, "I shall in that case suffer a two-fold evil, the loss of my money and the reproach of my neighbours." Gulistan iv. 2.

A learned man was upbraided for failing to controvert an atheist. He said: "my knowledge is that of sacred writ, and the traditions and revelations of our holy prophets; to which he gives no credit, and I can listen no longer to his blasphemy." Gulistan iv. 4.—He acknowledges his ignorance, who before another has concluded his argument can interrupt it with something of his own. The cabinet council were debating some important question, and the prime minister sitting silent; one of them asked, why he did not offer his opinion? So long as you are right," he replied, "it were folly in me to interfere."—Some of the courtiers asked him: "What secret was that the king just communicated to you, for he never tells any of us?" he replied: "he communicates with me, because he knows that I shall not betray him: why then can you ask me?" Gulistan iv. 8.

Sadi says, "I complained to a young friend, who had got married since we last met, that he had lost his cheerfulness. He answered: "since I became the father of children, I ceased to play the child." Gulistan vi. 4.

An old man was asked why he did not marry. He said: "as I feel myself no affection for old women, how can I expect a young woman to fall in love with me."

A learned man took much pains to instruct a nobleman's son, who had very weak intellects; but could make nothing of him. He took him back to his father, and said: "I cannot

make him a wise man, and if I go on much longer, he is likely to make a fool of me." Gul. vii. 1. If you covet the heritage of your father make yourself master of his business; for you may squander the patrimonial estate in the course of a few days.

A fellow applied to a horse-doctor to cure him of bad eyes who prescribed the same medicine for him as he would for a quadruped; and the biped became blind. On complaining to the Kazy, this decreed: "he could have no redress; for if he had not been an ass he would not have applied to an ass doctor." Gul. vii. 15.

The son of a rich man was observing to that of a dervis: "my father's tomb is built of stone, the epitaph written in gold, the lining marble and tessilated with torquoise, and that of your father is only a few bricks cemented with clay." The poor boy answered him: "I pray thee peace, for before your father can stir himself under this heavy load of stone, mine shall have risen up to heaven." Gul. vii. 19.

They asked a Siagush, why he followed the lion. He replied to subsist upon his leavings. And why do you not approach him nearer and become his intimate friend? Then I should no longer be secure against his all-devouring fury." Procul a Jove, procul a fulmine. Gul. i. 16. A prince complained, that an officer's son had called him names. The king said: "it were charity, O my son! in you to forgive him; but if you cannot stomach that, call him names in return; but take heed, that in doing so, you do not exceed the bounds of the provocation, because then the damage would rest with you, and the complaint with him." Gulistan i. 37.

At an entertainment given him by the king, a holy man said a long grace, but scarcely eat any thing. On reaching home, he desired his son to get him something to eat. This was a shrewd lad: "perhaps father! you eat little or nothing at the king's?" He said: "in his presence I barely eat what would do me good." "Then," replied the boy; "repeat a long grace, that nothing be omitted that can possibly do you good." Gul. ii. 6. Sadi complained to his ghostly guide, that somebody accused him of lasciviousness. "Shame him," said he, "by your continence." ii. 23.

A king asked a holy man: "Are you ever thinking of me?" "Yes," replied he, "when I can forget God, I may think of thee." All night a man sat weeping by his sick friend, next morning that man died, and his sick neighbour recovered.

Sadi told a holy friend, who had complained to him of the impertinent intrusion of his visitors; "to borrow money from the rich, and lend it to the poor, and he might not see either again." A physician said: "a hundred drachms of food is sufficient to support you, but if you exceed that, you will have to support it." Gul. iii. 4.

To an huge fellow, who was storming with passion, Sadi observed: "you can carry a stone of a thousand pound weight, but cannot bear with a single angry word."

The king of Persia sent a skilful physician to attend upon Mohammed; and, after some time he complained, that nobody consulted him. The prophet said: "I and my people eat, when we are hungry; and leave off with an appetite." The physician replied; "that accounts for your health." And he made obeisance, and took his leave. Gul. iii. 2.

Swift, Sterne, and other wits of the last and preceding age, could relish indecency and nastiness; but it is creditable to the present generation, that they have no taste for such grossness.

This was not, however, the case in the age and country in which Sadi flourished, any more than it was in the early periods of our own literary history. The works, not only of that author, but of many other Persian poets, and moralists, afford but too numerous instances of the coarsest indelicacy, both of thought and expression. Nor is it in the Khubisat,

or book of avowed impurities* of Sadi alone that the violations of decency appear. They too often disgrace even his most beautiful and instructive compositions; neither his Gulistan nor Bustan being entirely free from them, though these are books universally used in schools, and admitted even into the Haram.

For such passages:— nudi enim sunt, recti et venusti, omne ornatu orationes tanqum veste detracto: however much repugnant to the cleanlier manners and decenter ideas of our present times, the best apology I could offer is the simplicity of heart and nakedness of diction of Asiatic poets; who too often present us with rude images and gross sentiments, but we had best copy on such occurrences what some of our regular clergy do in meeting some passages in our old testament, and skip over what the standard of our present taste might consider as indelicate. Yet:—horresco referens—I must not overlook another disgusting propensity, to which Sadi is accused of alluding with a levity, if not a criminality, that is highly reprehensible. It is too serious a subject to touch lightly on here; and I devote another section of his life to this special discussion, where I endeavour to exonerate him in some measure from the heavier part of this charge.

A Route *from* Madras *to* Sironge *by Hyderabad and Hussingabad—Measured distance by the Perambulator, and as marched by* General Close's *army from Pandoorna back to Jaulna.*

[The subjoined original communication will be read with much interest, and, if we have not imbibed an erroneous impression of its merit, with some advantage. It conveys considerable useful information of a country, not often traversed by Europeans, with some historical facts, and circumstances, hitherto not commonly known. The first part of the Route, to which it relates, running through the provinces of the East India company, or bordering territories, is not on that account particularly described, but the detail and interest increase together, as it proceeds.—We know not to whom we are obliged for this favour, but we are not ignorant of its worth.]

From Madras	*M.*	*F.*
To Goomrapundy	27	0
Nayrpett	17	4
Goodoor	18	0
Venkatachlum's Choultry	13	4
Nellore	10	2
Cross the Pennaur river.		
Alloor	16	5
Mawuldroog	13	7
Kurair	21	4
Wolloor	16	0
Bedropollum	22	0
By Ongole.		
Ardingy	7	6
Gopurpaud	8	3
Rumpchurloo	21	0
Nacricull	12	4
Bramanapelly	15	0
Warapelly	18	0
Cross the Kistna, and enter the nizam's territory.		
Muiralgoodum	15	0
Teeperty	16	0
Nelgoonda	11	0
Gopally	18	6
Narrainpoor	9	4
Sangarum	15	0
Hyatnagur	8	0
Hyderabad	8	0
Cross the Moosa river.		
Gutchie Bowrie	11	7
Begumpett	17	2
A large village, a few miles beyond which you cross the Manjoura river.		
Jougiepett	20	5
A large and populous village.		

* This is a kind of jest book which *Sadi* condescended to compose, and to which a very appropriate title has been given; but whether by himself, or the editors of his works is uncertain, though the former is most probable.

Burgapelly............ 15 1
Pitlum 18 7
Bisconda.............. 15 4
Digloor............... 14 3
Silgeera.............. 16 3
Capsie................ 20 3
Nandair............... 11 2

A large walled town, on the N. banks of the Godaveri river: there is a Seik college established there.

Curunda............... 21 4
Nundapoor............. 15 2
Hinglah............... 12 7
Pallygaum............. 16 2

To Bassum, cross the Gunga river, six miles distant from it.

Bassum................ 13 0

A large town.

Saoloo................ 20 4
Kerinja............... 21 0

A large walled town and jaghire of Sooban Cawn, and a fine tank of water.

Hinginwady............ 18 0

A good village, and small stream of water, which has its source in the town of Kerinja, runs N. and E. to the Godaveri.

Omerawtu.............. 21 0

A large fortified and trading town. From three miles beyond Hinginwady, on the Omerawtu road, after passing a small table land, the small streams you meet with take a westerly course to the Taptie.

Teusa, N. village....... 24 0

Six miles beyond this, on the road to Sangwie, you cross the Werda, into the Nagpoor district.

Sangwee, M. village.... 26 0

Eighteen miles on this road you ascend the pass to Sangwie, which is situated on a good stream of water, running S. and E. into the Godaveri; but a small village. Neither the ascent nor descent of this pass is difficult.

Nukair................ 26 0

Nine miles on this road you cross the Werda to Amnair, belonging to the nizam, and immediately afterwards recross it into the Nagpoor country.

Pandoorna 9 0

A Mahratta village, on a small river: runs to the Inderowtu river, which joins the Godaveri.

Barooly*.............. 15 4

To this you ascend the Barooly ghaut, not difficult, to a table land, where the thermometer fell twelve degrees. The source of the Werda is two miles N. of Barooly.

Multie, or Multappy.... 13 5
Sikarie............... 11 5
Batool................ 10 5

A large fortified village and tank, the source of the Taptie, which the word indicates: mull-spring, in Persian. To Batool you descend a small pass: from Barooly to the pass is a table land, undulating, free from trees, and apparently well cultivated with wheat, sugar-cane, Bengal gram, and other Pulses.—Batool is a populous place, situated in a very fertile valley, near the ancient Kusba of Kureem, now destroyed, three miles distant.

Neempaney............. 16 5
Shapoor............... 8 7

From Batool you have a gentle ascent into a jungle, which continues to near Shapoor, $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles short of which you descend a ghaut, pretty difficult, to Shapoor, a small village, open, on a fine river, runs to the Nurbudda.

Bora river, no village.... 8 2
No village............ 9 5
Sindkair.............. 14 0

From Shapoor you again enter a wood, with a very small ascent, to within seven miles of Sindkair, where you meet with another descent into the plain which borders the Nurbudda. The pass is intricate and narrow, but

* From Barooly to Sindkair is generally known by the name of Goondwana. One of their principal chiefs who resided at Deogur, which lays about forty miles N. and E. from Pandoorna, was conquered by one of Aurengzebe's generals, and carried prisoner to Delhi, where he got his country back on embracing the Mussulman faith, and got the title of Boorahan Shah. His descendants were conquered by Boonsla, and the family are now prisoners at Nagpoor. Though turned Mussulmen, it is still thought an honour, by the other Goond chief, to be connected by marriage with that family. The thermometer, in January, when exposed, after ascending the Barooly Ghaut, varied in the morning from 35 to 38 and 40, but in the mid-day rose to about 80.

not difficult, without an army is much encumbered with baggage, for there is no descent into the plain but by the road.—Sindkair is a ruined village on the plain.

Hussingabad.......... 11 5

On the S. banks of the Nurbudda, is an old fort, fast falling to decay; crossed the river three miles west, at a good ford, then January, 2½ feet deep, and encamped on its northern banks, nearly opposite the fort; a range of hills running along its northern banks, and thick jungle to the bank of the river.

Godaviah Nulla Bopal... 4 4

Chawka.............. 7 4

To this you ascend a pass, with a very gradual ascent, and continue on a table land, covered with wood, till within three miles of Omrah, when you have a small descent into a valley, to the westward of which, distant about fourteen miles, lies Bopal, by which route, and Bilsa, general Goddard came with his army to Hussingabad, on his route to Guzerat.

Omrah................ 8 5

Omriah.............. 10 0

The direction of this march, E. and N. through the valley.

Bimchode, direction N. and W........... 17 0

To this place, all the road thick jungle till within one mile and a half of Bimchode, when you descend a small pass into a narrow valley; to the westward is seen, distant five miles, the hill fort of Rayeen, belonging to the Bopal rajah.

Peroreah, W. and N.... 13 0

You pass close under the N. end of the hill fort of Rayeen.

Amachwaur, N......... 10 4

Two miles N. of Bilsa, a large fortified town of Scindia's, on the Baitwa, or Baitwuntie river, a fine large stream, which takes its rise from a large tank near Bopal. The Bopal frontier comes within three miles of Bilsa. The country here is open and well cultivated.

Soomnair............... 8 4

You cross a stoney river, which, running to your left, joins the Baitwa.

Gunge, Bissouda........17 0

Two good villages, on the Baitwa, given by Scindia to a female of the Boonsla family, as pawn-villages.

Ocher................13 6

At Gunge Bissouda you cross the Baitwa: a good ford.

Sironge................ 10 4

A large open town, with appearance of former grandeur, and greater population, situated in a fine open country, well cultivated. Its bazars at present, are very strong, built of stone, on an elevation of four feet above the street. There is still standing a large caravansera—a double row of pillars, and walled all round. This district was given by Holkar to Ameer Khan, about the year 180[4] and gives him about five lacks of ru-pees annually. It is rated in the Ayeen Akberry at about 27 lacks. From this place to Boreah (5 m. 3 f.) was the utmost extent of general Close's procedure north, and the rou[te] detailed hereafter is his return, b[y] a more easterly route, to Jaulna, b[y] Hussingabad, Boorahanpoor, and t[he] Ajuntu Pass; from Hussingabad [to] Boorahanpoor is the route marched b[y] general Goddard.

Boreah, course northerly. 5

Mahanda Kaidee, E. & N. 12

Serawadao............ 5

Kolun, on the Narrain R. 2

Seerwye, E. and S...... 9

On the south banks of the Bait[wa] river. This country, from Sironge is an open plain, well cultivated; villages mostly in ruins, from the f[re]quent incursions of the Pindaries.

Bassouda, Gunge, S.... 8

Soomnair............. 16

Amachwar, near Bilsa.. 6

Yairawadoo, S. and E.... 18

On the Naiwund river.

Bagwana, southerly..... 13

Six miles short of Bagwana, you en[ter] again that belt of jungle, north [of the] Nurbudda, and which continues [to] Barie.

Burkhaida, on the Barna river.............. 9

Two miles east of this lies the f[ort] of Chowkygur, on a hill not v[ery] high. It had, early in 1810, b[een] besieged by the Boonsla's army, [and] taken by storm from the Bopal R[ajah] and Meer Khan's people, and wa[s]

hat period in the Mahrattas possession.

Barie................. 8 3

A fort, which as Chowkygur was taken by storm, situated on the Bama river, running East into the Nurbudda, and at the foot of the range of mountains on which Chowkygur is placed. There is a defile to come out of the mountains within two miles of Barie, not difficult.

Sunkair.............. 14 4

N. banks of the Nurbudda river.

Bunkair.............. 1 0

S. banks.

Silarie, course W. and S. 13 7

Babhy............... 14 0

Near this you cross the Towa river, running N. into the Nurbudda, four miles East of Hussingabad, a broad bed of sand, but shallow and very low banks, it rises in the Goond hills, S. of Hussingabad.

Hussingabad, W. and N. 7 0

Doolooriah, W......... 14 1

Five miles short of this on the left of Southern side, lays buried, Mr. Webbe, resident at Scindia's court, when that chief lay encamped there.

Sewney............... 15 2

Cotra................. 13 1

Encamped on the Western bank of a good river, which forms the Western boundary of the Boonsla's territory; the village of Cotra belongs to Boonsla on the Eastern banks; the Southern one belongs to Scindia; the river runs North into the Nurbudda, from the Goona hills.

Hurda, W. and S....... 17 7

A good village, small river and fort, country open, and well cultivated. From Hurda to Charwa, is wood and jungle, without inhabitants; a very good road, made, as reported, by Aurenzebe, as a grand road of communication between the Deccan and Hindoostan. At Charwa you meet with a fort of four angle bastions, near to a very fine stream of water, from thence to four miles beyond the Baum river, you meet with no signs of inhabitants. At that place is Pipload, a large mud fort.

Matchnair river, S...... 12 6

Charwa............... 9 2

Goorahpatcha river.. .. 11 3

Chinipoor............ 7 6

Jammary.............. 13 0

Baum river............ 7 5

Seawull............... 17 6

To Seawull you meet with some difficulties on the road, such as narrow roads and windings round small hills, with deep ravines and jungle; Seawull has been a large town, from which you see distant about eight miles, the hill fort of Assurghur, in a W. and S. direction.

Nusserabad, S. and W... 13 6

From Seawull to Nusserabad, the road is very intricate by the numerous ravines you meet with, by which all that country is cut, carrying their waters into the Taptie, on the Northern banks of which the road lays. Great trouble has been taken with this road in cutting through the different ascents you meet with, which renders it very tedious for an army with much baggage, to pass that way, as there is no road for the baggage to the right or left.

Two miles S. of Boorahanpoor, at Shapoor.. 10 0

Three miles short of Boorahanpoor, you cross the Taptie at a very good ford, the Southern bank a little steep; the city of Boorahanpoor, like the generality of towns in India, is falling fast to decay, for want of a government that will protect them. Shapoor is near enough to the Taptie for an army to water, it is a decayed village.

Antoorly, S. and W...... 7 7

Hatulla.............. 17 3

Yaiootie.............. 16 6

Samoorud............ 10 1

Furdapoor............ 16 1

From Shapoor to Furdapoor, is a fine open country, and good roads. It was at Samoorud where Scindia's army lay, after his defeat at Assaye, on col. Stephenson making his appearance at the head of the Adjuntu Pass, at the foot of which, on a small river, lays Furdapoor, a small and weak fort; near Furdapoor, the Nizam's boundaries commence; Furdapoor belongs to him.

Ajuntu, S. and E....... 4 4

At the head of the Pass, a walled

town, but not strong; the road up the ghaut is pretty steep, but well made.

Wankry.............. 12 0

Codallah.............. 10 2

Small village on a fine river, three miles distant from Assaye, which lays to the eastward.

Langaum.............. 15 2

Jaulnah.............. 17 1

The head quarters of the Hyderabad subsidiary force, formerly a place of great trade and opulence. There is a town on one side of the river, and a fort and town on the other. From Ajuntu to Jaulnah, the country open, and road very good.

Kurlah.............. 15 3

Purtoor.............. 15 3

Little water.

Sittoonah.............. 11 3

Wells, between Sittoonah and Pupulgaum, lies Seeloo, a large and populous village belonging to the Paishwa, and between Pupulgaum and Manda Kuda, lays Mahaotie, a large village belonging to the Nizam.

Pupulgaum.............. 13 0

Manda Kuda.............. 18 6

Dightanah.............. 13 3

Kair.............. 7 1

S. banks of the Godaveri, a large fortified town.

Saoorgaum.............. 12 2

Rajoorna.............. 12 3

Hultie.............. 12 1

Oodgherry.............. 13 1

A populous village; fort and cyprus garden; a Jaghire.

S. Banks Manjera river.. 18 0

Pass through Moorg, a large village.

Hulburga.............. 17 1

Eight miles on the Konapoor road, you pass the large village of Bulkie.

Konapoor.............. 5 7

Half way to Goonjetta you pass close to the town of Biedu.

Goonjetta.............. 18 3

Jallapelly.............. 13 0

Yaimpelly, S. and E.... 11 4

Deserted.

Cundy.............. 14 6

Puttencheroo.............. 11 3

Large village and tank.

Durga.............. 13 3

Hyderabad.............. 9 0

Shumrabad, course S.. . 11 0

A Jaghire, fort, and good garden.

Nundygaum.............. 14 3

Riacul.............. 9 6

Rajapett.............. 10 2

Alloor.............. 11 2

Gunpoor.............. 11 7

An old decayed fort, belonging to the family of the Nabob of the Carnatic, given as a Jaghire by Nizam ul Mulk.

Chintaacul.............. 13 7

Paungul.............. 11 5

A hill fort.

Paugtoor.............. 16 0

A Jaghire belonging to the family of Ameen Saib, Arab, under the Nizam, on the Southern banks of the Kistna.

Kurnool.............. 14 0

The place of residence, and Jaghire of a Patan chief who has fortified it. He is of the same family, concerned in the death of Nazir Jung at Pondicherry, brought about by Dupleix; he is now under the company, whose Northern boundary is the Toombudra river, which joins the Kistna a few miles below.

Cheroobulgul, S. and W. 25 0

Yemanaganoor.............. 13 4

Koatcul.............. 9 0

Adoni.............. 9 0

Formerly the Jaghire and residence of Bazalut Jung, brother to Nizam Ally, besieged, taken and destroyed by Tippoo Sultan; it was a strong hold in the hands of the Anagoindy princes, who lost it after the great battle with the Deccan sovereigns, along with their empire.

Hoogerie river.............. 27 0

Bellary.............. 17 7

A hill fort, and fortified Petah, near which is fixed a cantonment, and the head quarters of a division.

Total. E. miles 1948 4

Translated Extract *of a* Persian Manuscript *entitled* Memorandums *and* Recent Anecdotes *of the* Southern *Courts of* Hindoostan, *by a* Mussulman Observer, *in the year* 1195-6 *Hegree*, A. D. 1781-2.

[This paper affords no ordinary specimen of modern Persian composition, nor of genius in the writer; though it betray a prejudice in speaking of Mahratta institutions and events, connecting themselves with the history of that curious people, that may be suspected to influence other parts of his relation.]

The Mahrattas of all the infidel tribes of Hindoostan, are best known to the Islaamites. They derive their name from the country which they inhabit; but from the constancy of their wars with the Mussulman powers, they are more emphatically called the enemy. Like the other followers of Bramah, they are divided into four casts; and these into an infinitude of subordinate ones, all of the Sunkee, or bastard race.

The Bramins are of two classes, Mahratta and Koking; the latter is sub-divided into four others, of which the Chitpoor is of late the most distinguished, as giving a chief under the title of Pundit Pindhan, to the whole state, and the Carrery is at once noticed, and hated for making a triennial sacrifice of a member of the religious order to their Bowanny.

The Cheteree Sunkers in the second descent are ninety-six in number, and acknowledge the superiority of the Bhoslah tribe, though those of Jadoo, of Scindia, and Guicawar, are more numerous and ancient: besides these, there is a single family in the first degree of bastard consanguinity or lineal descendants of the genuine Rajepoot tribe of Rhatoor, which pride themselves in continuing unmixed, and preserving their original distinction and purity for many ages of residence in the province of Biglana, amidst the more contaminated Cheteree race of Mahrattas. It seems, however, probable, that the antiquity of this family called Beherijee, cannot be traced with certainty, further back than Kirrin, the fugitive prince of Nerwallah in Guzerat in the 7th century. Of the cast Bice, there are few inhabitants in Merhat, and none of note.

The 4th or Sooder, are of course, most numerous; and they are moreover warlike; yet, I have not been able to learn any thing satisfactory: but of the Bergy, Cutteacur, and Conbre tribes, sub-divided into about forty others, denominated from the varieties in the different occupations of shepherd, weaver, and husbandman, among the second of which, the family of Holkar, is the most distinguished.

When the great emperor of Delhi, Alla u Deen, Khilju first entered the Deccan, about 500 years ago, the wealth of a long line of princes, which ruled the country of Merhat, in their capital of Deogheer, or Dowlutabad, in part became an easy prey to that conqueror. The enemy were ignorant of the improved art of war, they had no places of defence, and were peaceably inclined; they, therefore, readily submitted to the payment of a small annual tribute, for the space of fifty years, dependant on the crown of Delhi, under the Braminiah kings, who having dismembered from the Patan empire, resided within, and governed that part of the Deccan, north of the Kistna. Near two centuries, the reins of government, being shortened, were kept more powerfully tight in proportion to the wisdom, or vigour of those who held them. But it was not until the beginning of the 10th century, when five independent principalities, were raised on the ruins of the Braminiah kingdom, that the Mahrattas were completely subdued, and brought under the multiplied yoke of Mussulman authority. Such are the happy consequences, when princes lead their own armies into the field; are at hand to check the corruption, or support the weakness of their generals;

and exert within a narrow compass the united force of states, depending rather on personal ability, than on solid principles of government. The Dynasties of Adil and Nizam Shahy, divided the whole of Kokun between them: Merhat proper, chiefly between the Kistna and Bhuma, exclusively belonged to the former, as prince of Beejapoor; and the modern province of Dowlutabad, constituted the greater part of the principality of Ahmednuggur, subject to the latter. A third portion of Merhat fell to the lot of Cossim Burreed, who laid the foundation of a new government in Bider, even before the total extinction of the old in the family of Braminiah. That polite prince, after having slain in battle, Sabajee, the only Mahratta chief of note remaining, chiefly accomplished his ambitious projects, by uniting in interests and marriage, the sole heiress of the deceased Indian with his own son Ameer.

Thus fell the ancient fabric of an idolatrous society; its cement was dissolved by the irresistible talisman of Mohammed, but the stubborn materials retained their form, and like unto the dissevered particles of the same substance, had always a propensity to re-unite; or as we are told of the serpent, when cut asunder, that the dismembered parts have a separate existence, and seek again incorporation, so it may be said of the Mahrattas: after impotently grovelling in the dust, near a century and a half without a head, they at length found, and recognized one as their own, in the person of Sahoojee Bhoslah: this man third in descent from the Rana of Chitori by a concubine, naturalized himself among the Mahrattas by a matrimonial alliance with the tribe of Jadoo, another Rajepoot Sunker, then high in power, though under subjection to Nizam Shah. When Shah Jehan, in the middle of the 11th century, finally reduced the principality of Ahmednuggur Sahoojie with his family, took refuge in Beejapoor, and obtained from Adil Shah the zemindary of Poonah and Wainedess, in the northern fort of the Kistnah; but being deemed an enterprising experienced general, was soon afterwards appointed to the government of the newly-acquired dominions in the Carnatic. These he enlarged by the conquest of Tanjore, where settled his second son Eekojee, and eventually transmitted it as an inheritance to his posterity. The eldest son Servajee, left in the management of the original zemindary, very early became entitled to the surname of Iblees, by discovering the most traitorous principles of rebellion, against his sovereign, and otherwise violating the laws of God, and our prophet. The imbecility of a minor prince and declining empire, gave a deep and vigorous root to usurpation, and the contest which followed between the houses of Timur and Adil Shah, ending in the destruction of the latter, brought the noxious weed to full maturity. While yet in its growth, the powerful opposition of Alumguire, through the medium of Joye Singh, an Indian prince, for a short time stopt its progress; as we see frequently one poison operate as an antidote to another; but the corruption or inability of Khan Jehan, and other Mussulman Omrahs, which were employed in the second *Jehad* against Sewa, lost the advantages derived from their predecessor's dexterity. War is the harvest of generals, and the Dekhan presented a rich and ample field for cultivation; it was thought worthy the personal attention of the Mogul himself. The Mahratta contest, however, became only a matter of secondary consideration; the extensive kingdoms of Beejepoor and Hyderabad, were fitter objects for the emperor's ambition. After the reduction of these, Sumbhajee, the son and successor of Sewa, felt the weight of the conqueror's arms: he was surprised and slain; his family taken prisoners; and his skin, stuffed with straw, was sent round the country in terrorem, to all rebellious subjects. Ram Rajah, the brother of the deceased, till then imprisoned, was at the same time let loose by his countrymen, to conduct a predatory war; but Tara-babi, who, with an infant son, soon afterwards succeeded her husband, proved much

more a formidable enemy to the Mussulman power: insomuch, that even the great Alumguire on one occasion, for the sake of peace, resolved upon, though he did not in the end agree to, the annual payment of a *Sirdeismooky* of 9 per cent. out of the revenues of the Deccan. During, however, the life of that monarch, the Mahratta power appeared contemptible; but in Sahoo, the captive son of Sumbha, contrary to sage advice, he cherished a serpent in his bosom, which afterwards was to be the destruction of his empire. As we see a tree grow with additional vigour, when pruned of its branches, so it proved with the Mogul, in lopping off successive shoots, yet preserving the principal stock of Mahratta progeny. The civil wars and anarchy which followed the death of Alumguire, at once gave freedom and dominion to the captive Sahoo: nor did the tide of Indian conquest begin to ebb, until in the revolution of sublunary events, was introduced an ecclesiastic government.

This union of spiritual and temporal authority, forms a two-headed monster in society, which might frighten an ignorant world into submission; but it is necessarily of short duration, even if by the lights of science and cultivated reason, the period of its existence be not accelerated: for that regimen which is proper for the support and nourishment of the one part, empoisons and enfeebles the other. Such was the mighty Khalifat of Arab'stan and Ajim. Under the divine authority of Mahomet, and his holy contemporaries, the unnatural being might thrive, but it should be classed among the miracles to prove the mission of our prophet, when mere mortal men undertook a more than human task, they only showed the presumptive weakness of their reason. How much juster is the application with respect to the barbarous hierarchy instituted in Merhat, on the death of Sahoo Rajah. That prince and his ancestors, acknowledged chiefs of the state, delegated the administration of their patriarchal feudal government, to eight subordinate officers; their employments and names were chiefly borrowed from the Mahomedans; but contrary to the true spirit of eastern legislation, these became hereditary in particular families: so did in like manner the estates and Jagheers, unto which the whole conquered countries were divided and parcelled out among the civil, military, or religious dependants of the Rajahs.

The Paishwa Ballagee, a Kokuny Bramin of the Chitpoor race, was next to the Pertee-neddee in rank, but as Dewàn or prime minister, was the first in power. He was assisted by the Pherd-naveese, who superintended the Dufter, and was of the same tribe. On the decease of Sahoo, without issue, this officer seized the reins of administration, under the nominal authority of the famous Tarabahi, or her weak son, the 2d Ram Rajah, virtually transferring the whole power to his own family, and other Bramins of Kokun. These infidel priests, had long since converted into a bowstring, the peaceable cord of their function, and though courage was not dealt to them by nature, they transgress a special rule of their order, in the exercise of the military art, unless under circumstances of necessity. The evils which their wise legislator foresaw, would be the result of such a deviation from the doctrines of the Bides, they soon experienced, after their exaltation to empire.

The lust of worldly power became the predominant passion; to gratify which, the spiritual character must either entirely be laid aside, or vilified. But the genius of the clerical profession, in every religion except the true one, is to enslave the mind, as well as to controul the persons and property of mankind; a great portion thereof, of the temporal power was soon found necessary to be delegated to its proper ministers the laity, who of course endeavour to shake off the unnatural yoke of civil Braminical authority.

The Sainaputty or chief command of the army, and second most powerful office under the Mahratta government, had been lately transferred from the Rajpoot Sunker of Jadoo, to that of Bhoslah in the person of Ragojee, a

branch of the reigning family; together with the Mukasdarry or Collectorship of Berar. This man was the first who assumed independence: from being tax-gatherer, he, or his sons, became proprietors of half the province, and levied on the other, under Mussulman authority, a grievous assignment of 50 per cent. under the denomination of Sirdieshmookhy, Chout, Soutra, Bapty, and Forage, all included in the general name of Muckassa. Moodajee the reigning prince, in the name of his son, enjoys in consequence, a revenue of one crore of rupees, with which he maintains a body of 22,000 cavalry, including 2000 Pagah; and verifies the observation that riches depend less on the amount of income, than on a proportional expenditure, by laying by an annual surplus of near 50 lacks, more, perhaps, from Hindoo parsimony than any design of adopting the spirited policy of Bethoo Pundit, by raising again to the empire the family of Bhoslah, now represented in Sattarah by the third Sahoo, a youth of twenty.

Notwithstanding, however, the dismemberment of Berar, an extensive empire, yielding annually three crore of rupees, and near five of old, was still held in subjection to the Paishwa. It was reserved for more modern times, and the irresistible sword of fate at present weilded by the *Feringuees*,* to cut asunder the tender thread by which the Zoonardars of Kokun have, in a short period of general confusion, held together, as by a charm, a heterogeneous confederacy. Ragho that bane of Mussulman pride, but close imitator of the iniquitous policy which attends it, had tasted out of his turn the sweets of power, under a minor prince; unwilling to part with the sensual cup, he made use of it to end the rightful desires, with the days of his nephew Nanayen. Such a violation of the rigid laws of Bramah was not to be tolerated, under the most depraved system of government: moreover, the regent aggressor had a powerful faction against him, and a few friends within the circle of his administration, while by constant and successful opposition to the Nizamut, together with supercilious treatment at the memorable interview of Bedr, he rendered himself personally obnoxious to an intriguing neighbour, the more dangerous that his power was contemptible enough to be overlooked. Accordingly, Ragho was soon compelled to seek refuge with the Feringuees: and to the wars which have been since waged by these foreign intruders, may be ascribed the anticipated decline, if not the total annihilation, of the Kokuny Bramin empire.

It has been already set forth, that after the dismemberment of Berar, a revenue or country, estimated at three crores of rupees, still remained to the Paishwa. At the commencement of the present troubles, the Chout of the Carnatic, and some districts on the Toombhudra, in all amounting to 12 lacks, were formerly ceded to Hyder, to secure his friendship during the impending contest. In like manner, Dowlutabad, with dependencies, rated at 20 lacks, and actually yielding half that sum, were transferred to the Nizam. Broderah, and other Purgunnahs in Guzerat, had long been held an hereditary fief by the family of Guicawar, for which they were bound to perform military services with 10,000 horse, and were more especially considered the immediate guardians of Ahmedabad: but by the defection of Futty Singh, and territorial losses in Guzerat and Kokun, a further diminution of 55 lacks, may be placed to the account of the war with the Feringuees, on the side of Bombay: while the late treaty concluded with Scindea, and consequent dismemberment of his hereditary fiefs in Malwa and Khandish, rated at 25,000 horse, supported by a revenue of 60 lacks, threatens instant destruction to the state of Poona;—now chiefly upheld by the military force and abilities of the Catteacur Holkar, who, as a counterpoise to Scindia, received long since on the same terms, an equal portion of two

* The English.

Soubahs, with the government of Indour. This man is heartily tired of an unprofitable burthensome war, and dreads the enterprises of his more noble lateral neighbours of Nagpore and Ugein; who by their late transactions, and in receiving Vakeels, seem to be entirely their own friends under foreign influence. Besides Tuckojee, Gundadur and Ballajee, both cunning Bramins, held foreign districts of 10 lacks in Bondelah, for the maintenance of 5000 horse dependant on the Paishwa: but this force has been rendered of no avail, by distance and disaffection. Indeed, if we except Jeswunt Row Pensia, a Mahratta Bramin, who commands the artillery with a Jagheer of 3 lacks, the remaining power of the Pundit Purdhan, rests entirely on the single wise distinterested counsels of Nana Phurnavese, the military abilities of Phurkia, a man of no note, though of great experience; the feudal force of Bulwunt Row, of Pursaram Bhow, of Rasteah, and others Bramins of the Chitpour race, with a revenue of 40 lacks, and 20,000 horse; or is concentred in the forts and domains annexed to the Paishwaship, estimated at 50 lacks more, to support the expence of garrisons, and the princely dignity with 12,000 horse including 3000 Pagah.

With such slender uncertain resources to continue the war, appears impossible. It is true, the Nizam has lately paid up the arrears of his Muckassa, about 10 lacks; but he is not without hopes of future remission, as well as being put in possession of the forts of Ahmednuggur and Assur, in the event of a partially effectual mediation, which would greatly more than counterbalance his present pecuniary aid: He would further most cheerfully excoriate the Mahratta state, of making a provision for the unfortunate Ragho, by giving him Jagheer, even beyond the period of his natural life in a transient world, unless the success and enterprise of Amrut Row, the adopted son of the exiled prince, assisted by Goo Giar Khan, who has lately appeared in arms in Khandeish, on the frontiers of Aurungabad, with 10,000 horse, should make it unnecessary to seek an inheritance through any foreign aid. In the mean time, however, the crest-fallen Ragho, wishes rather to content himself with the hermitage of Tirmook, at the sacred source of the Godavery, to purify his sins, and wait patiently his own predestined fate, or that of his infant offspring Sewái Bajee Row, who, in the event of the present Paishwa's death, without issue, would probably be named for the succession. The prospect, as it must embitter Nanah's grief, in the recent loss of his only child, the intended wife of Mahdo Row, so it may give reality to artful, but hitherto chimerical, speculations of the ministry of Hyderabad, in favour of Kishen Row Bullpar (late Vakeel from Poonah, and Jagheerdar of the Nizam.) Instead, however, of guiding the war, and being actors in the scene, it is worth considering how far the situation of their own affairs, internally or externally, is likely to permit them to enjoy in peace, the pleasure of being simple spectators.

College of Fort William, September 15th, 1810.

[The Editor has hitherto inserted the *Annual Address* of the right honourable the Visitor of the college at Calcutta in another division of the Register, allotted to the local Occurrences at Bengal; but has departed from his plan, in the present volume, under an impression that the former practice interrupted and delayed the progressive detail of events, and did not afford a place sufficiently conspicuous, and marked, for the valuable communications from the Chair of the College; which no one can regard as of little moment to the interests of India, or of England, and none can more admire than the humble compiler of this Miscellaneous work.]

PUBLIC DISPUTATION.

The right honourable lord Minto, governor-general and visitor of the college of Fort William, having appointed

Saturday the 25th September, for a public disputation in the Asiatic languages, to be held in conformity with the statutes of the college, the president and members of the college council, the officers, professors and students of the college, met at ten o'clock, at the government-house, where the members of the supreme council, one of the judges of the supreme court, and many of the civil and military officers at the presidency, with others of the principal European inhabitants of Calcutta, and a few respectable natives, were also assembled.

As soon as the right honourable the visitor had taken his seat, the public exercises commenced.

When the disputations were concluded, the president of the college council, presented to the right honourable the visitor, the several students of the college, who were entitled under statute VIII. to receive degrees of honour; as well as, successively, the whole of the students, who, at the examinations held in January and June last, had been found qualified to enter upon the public service; and had consequently obtained permission from the visitor to quit the college, under the rule contained in section II. regulation III. 1807. The president read the certificate granted by the council of the college to each student, in pursuance of the above statute, specifying the proficiency which he made in the prescribed studies of the college, and also the general tenor of his conduct. With the amount, if any, of the debt contracted by him during the period of his attachment to the college. When the certificates had been read, the visitor presented to each student, entitled to receive a degree of honour, the usual diploma inscribed on vellum, and at the same time expressed the satisfaction which he felt in conferring it.

The students on whom the right honourable the visitor was pleased to confer a degree of honour on this occasion, and the languages for their high proficiency in which the degrees of honour were respectively conferred, are as follow:—

1. Holt Mackenzie, Persian, Hindoostanee and Bengalee.

2. Henry Mortlock, Persian and Hindoostanee.

3. Fry Magniac, Persian, Arabic, and Hindoostanee.

4. Hans Sotheby, Persian.

5. Robert Merttins Bird, Persian, Hindoostanee, and Bengalee.

6. Henry Thoby Prinsep, Persian, Hindoostanee, and Bengalee.

7. George Porcher, Bengalee.

8. William Hallows Belli, Bengalee.

The honorary prizes and medals, adjudged at the annual and quarterly examinations, were also distributed by the visitor to the following students.

1. Holt Mc'Kenzie, a medal, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian, and one in the 4th term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian, and one in the 4th term of 1809, for proficiency in Bengalee.

2. Henry Mortlock, a medal, adjudged in the 1st term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian.

3. Fry Magniac, a medal, adjudged in the first term of 1809, for proficiency in Arabic.

4. Hans Sotheby, a medal, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian.

5. Robert Merttins Bird, as per annexed report, and three medals, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian, Hindoostanee, and Bengalee.

6. Henry Thoby Prinsep, as per annexed report, and two medals, adjudged in the 4th term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian and Hindoostanee.

7. George Porcher, as per annexed report, and a medal, adjudged in the 4th term of 1809, for proficiency in Bengalee.

8. William Hallows Belli, as per annexed report, and a medal, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Bengalee.

9. Charles Arthur Molony, as per annexed report.

10. William McIntosh, a medal, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Bengalee.

11. Gerard Wellesley, a medal, adjudged in the 3d term of 1809, for proficiency in Persian.

12. George Thornton Bayley, as per annexed report.

13. William Fane, a medal, adjudged in the 4th term of 1809, for proficiency in Bengalee.

14. Charles George Blagrave, as per annexed report.

15. James William Grant, as per annexed report.

16. Martin Thomas Whish, as per annexed report.

After the prizes and honorary rewards had been distributed, the right honourable the visitor delivered the following discourse :

" *Gentlemen of the College of Fort William.*

Since we last met in this place, it has been determined to hold the annual examination in the month of June, instead of January, an arrangement which, by the opening of the river at that season, will enable a considerable proportion of the gentlemen who quit college, to repair, without delay, to their respective stations.

The consequence has necessarily been to extend in the present instance, the interval between the two examinations to eighteen months. It is obvious that if the students who had qualified themselves for the service at the usual time, had, on account of this change, been detained six months longer at college, the new regulation, however beneficial to the institution and the service at large, would have operated to the individual prejudice of those gentlemen.

This circumstance did not escape the observation of the college council, and with their wonted regard to propriety and justice, it was resolved to release those who should have attained the prescribed degrees of proficiency at the fourth quarterly examination of the year 1809.

The recent examination, therefore, so far as it relates to the qualification of the students to quit college, has reference only to the subsequent and broken period of six months. But as the examination which took place in January was not followed by public exercises, nor by any part of the solemnities usually observed at this anniversary, a distinguished portion of merit would be deprived of its just recompence, the year would be defrauded of its brightest ornaments, and a considerable hiatus would be left in the academical history of the college of Fort William, if the whole period which has elasped since I had last the honour of addressing you, were not comprised within the scope of this day's commemoration,

It will be proper, therefore, to consider the year 1809, and the six following months, as forming one consolidated period; and I shall enjoy the double gratification of dispensing such a full measure of public honours, and of enriching my discourse with such accumulated praise as may be justly rendered to a somewhat protracted season of study and exertion.

On the other hand, this alteration will on the present occasion create a difficulty in giving to some of the topics, which it has been of late customary to treat in the visitor's discourse, as full a discussion as they may justly be thought to deserve. The greater length of the period I am about to review, opposes, indeed, no obstacle to the appreciation of its own simple and positive merits or defects, and it is as easy to discern and reward the excellence, or to observe and reprehend the faults of eighteen months as of twelve. The inequality in duration of the present and preceding periods, renders it, however, less easy to form a relative estimate of that which is under investigation, or in other words, to determine the comparative exertions and acquirements of the two. The parallel which, under several heads, has been drawn on former occasions between one year and another, will not furnish correct results, between two unequal periods of study; and if it were attempted to rectify the errors of such a computation by allowances for time, the mathematical laws of proportion might, perhaps, not be found entirely applicable to this problem of moral arithmetic.

We might suspect, for example, in the present instance, that the early return of an opportunity to quit college, which the new arrangement pre-

sented to those who were to be examined in January, 1810, may have reconciled a lukewarm student to some delay in his preparation for an examination which was to be quickly succeeded by another, and may have induced him to begin a little later, the painful effort of forcing an irksome labour upon an indolent habit of mind. It seems indeed reasonable to imagine, that in some instances, the penalty of six months further restraint may have failed, although the apprehension of a whole year's disappointment in the hope of emancipation might have triumphed over a distaste for study.

These and similar considerations, on which, however, it is not necessary to enlarge, would render the usual comparative review extremely complicated, and at the same time neither conclusive nor satisfactory.

I might, therefore, be induced to forbear altogether from a circumstantial comparison, agreeable to former models, of the present period with the studies of 1808, if I were not so much persuaded of the advantage to be derived from that mode of revision, as, notwithstanding the difficulties which prevent me from pursuing that course too minutely, to be desirous of offering some general remarks of that description.

Upon such a view of the present and immediately preceding periods, as the circumstances already adverted to admit of, I have the satisfaction to report, that in the principal particulars on which the comparison has in former instances been made to turn, no ground has been lost. The reputation of the college has been well sustained in all, while we may indulge the gratifying hope of an honourable progress, by fair indications of improvement in some points of the parallel.

The number of students who have been reported qualified, by proficiency in two or more languages to quit the college at the two examinations of 1810, would give an ascendency to our present period, after making a full allowance for its longer duration, the numbers being 17 for 1808, and 28, for 1809-10. I ought, however, under all the circumstances which would create error, and disturb these complex calculations, so far to distrust the partiality which, from a desire of progress, I confess always inclines my mind to the interests of the latest period, I mean that which is the immediate subject of observation, as not to rely too confidently on our title to the inconsiderable preference, which these numbers might in strictness afford. My solicitude for the credit of the year shall be satisfied, therefore, by the certainty of equality with the past, and by the probable hope of a moderate improvement.

Agreeable to this observation, the number of students who presented themselves for examination, in the different languages, in January and June of the year 1810, compared with those of the former period, affords no advantage worthy of being claimed on either side. Before the numbers are stated it may be proper, however, for the sake of correctness to observe, that some disadvantage accrues to the latter period, from the circumstance of the examination which was held last January, being considered as quarterly and not annual, the consequence of which was, that only those who had studied the different languages during that quarter, were called up to be examined, instead of the full complement of the whole year, as was the case at the examination of January, 1809.

The numbers at the respective examinations stand as follows:

IN PERSIAN.

28 Students were examined in Jan. 1809.
37 in Jan. and June. . 1810

IN HINDOOSTANEE.

48 1809
47 1810

IN BENGALEE.

16 1809
20 1810

IN ARABIC.

4 1809
6 1810

IN MAHRATTA.

One student was examined in Jan.

1810, since which period no student has presented himself to examination in that language.

The number of Arabic students appears from this statement to have preserved its proportional level, and I shall observe, with pleasure, any indication which may be afforded hereafter, of a growing taste for the important and interesting study of that language, as furnishing, independent of its own riches, the only sure foundation on which a profound and critical knowledge of the Persian, and thence of the Hindoostanee languages can be raised.

With regard to the Mahratta language, its attainment, in the few instances which have occurred at Fort William, must be ascribed either to personal taste, or to some other inducements attaching to the individual students, and as yet there is scarcely sufficient ground to class that study amongst the proper and established pursuits of this college, in such a manner as to enable us to draw from its fluctuations any argument of advantage or disadvantage to the general state of our academical labours. It will be sufficient to remind the younger members, who have yet to choose their course of study, that an acquaintance with the Mahratta tongue is to be accounted a desirable preparation for some of the most important and interesting stations in the diplomatic branch of the service.

In variety of studies we appear to have gained some advantage.

In 1809, two students were proficient in four languages; and four students in three.

In January of the present year, three had attained proficiency in four languages; and two of those who then quitted college, to whom must be added Mr. Bird, who voluntarily prolonged his academical pursuits, were found proficient in three languages. Mr. Bird justified this effort of self denial at the subsequent examinations in June, by an elementary knowledge of Arabic, which he had in that interval added to the high proficiency in three languages already acquired: and Mr. Pinsep, who entered the college in July, 1809, has been reported in less than twelve months, highly proficient in three languages.

The result would therefore be, that if Mr. Bird's progress in Arabic might entitle me to include his name, the number of proficients in our languages at the examinations of the present year would double those of the preceding; and in three languages we should now fall short of the examinations in 1809, only as three to four.

The credit of the present year is also well supported by instances of rapid acquirement, a species of excellence always worthy of admiration, and therefore entitled to applause, as evincing the rare union of lively genius and quick capacity, ardent but stedfast application, and displaying the richest gifts of nature, cultivated and improved by the active energies of virtue.

At the head of this distinguished band, I am to place the name of Mr. Holt Mackenzie. The whole period of his study at Fort William extended only from November, 1808, to December, 1809, and in these few months, he placed himself first in Bengalee, second in Persian, Hindoostanee, and Arabic.

Justifying a descent, illustrious in letters, and making good his title to a rich succession of hereditary genius, his rapid course has overtaken all his senior competitors, and kept the lead which he at once assumed amongst his distinguished contemporaries.—He left his name first in the roll of our college at the time of his quitting it; but embracing the full period of its duration, from the establishment of this institution to the present term, the same name will still be found to maintain its eminence, and will scarcely own a second station even in this larger and more comprehensive array of merit.

Mr. Magniac's residence at college was precisely of the same duration. He brought from the chambers of professor White, of Oxford, and from the halls of a western university, a proof that oriental study is promoted and ho-

nored in our native country, highly creditable to the eminence of the master, and the capacity and diligence of the scholar, while it was no less acceptable and grateful to all those who profess and cultivate oriental philosophy in the British schools of Asia. To the stock of Arabic which Mr. Magniac imported from England, he has added a considerable accession in the same language, at Fort William. He has gained besides, in the short period already stated, the third place in Persian and Hindoostanee, having attained at the same time the second class in Bengalee.

Mr. Mortlock, who entered and quitted college at the same time with Mr. Mackenzie and Mr. Magniac, stood at the latter period, first in the Persian and Hindoostanee languages.

Mr. Porcher, Mr. Molony, and Mr. Bayley, whose studies commenced in October, 1809, and terminated in their quitting college at the examination of last June, have afforded in this short space of eight months, a highly honourable proof of capacity and application.

Mr. Porcher stands first in Bengalee, and fifth in Persian.

Mr. Molony is third in Persian and Hindoostanee.

Mr. Bayley holds the fifth place in Hindoostanee, and the eighth in Persian.

Dismissing the comparative review of the present and former periods with these imperfect, but, as far as they extend, sufficiently correct observations, I proceed, with the satisfaction which always attends the distribution of just and impartial reward to distinguished and well-established merit, to recite the honours which have been awarded by the college council, and which I have on this day dispensed, to those, who in providing for the reputation of their own season, and for the splendour of the scene on which they have for the first time been candidates for fame, and stood before the awful, even where it is indulgent and partial, inquest of the world, have, I doubt not, fixed the rank they are destined to hold throughout the career on which they are entering.

It is always, I confess, with secret pleasure that I allow myself to assimilate this apparently contracted stage of early life to the wider, but scarcely more real theatre of the world. Viewing from this chair, which seems to be placed on the confines of youth and manhood, at the extreme boundary of the first, and on the threshold of the succeeding stage, viewing all the business, the emulations, the generous strifes, and contending energies, with the many degrees of success and failure, corresponding to the various powers and exertions of these youthful actors, summed up and diplayed at this anniversary, it is gratifying to contemplate this juvenile arena, as but a lively rehearsal, and anticipated image of the future scene. The interest of the day, and of my own office in this place is much enhanced by the indulgence of these, I think, not irrational speculations, by which the garlands with which the young combatants are now crowned, may be deemed of perpetual fragrance, and the champions who are applauded to day, may be seen in distant perspective, gathering and accumulating fresh and growing renown to the end of their course.

Why, indeed, should this fair and flattering prospect fail us? The hopes I have described are rather the conclusions of reason, than the visions of a partial imagination. These young men have subdued stronger obstacles, stimulated by weaker inducements, than will attend their maturer labours. The lively character of youth, and all its appetites for active and gay pursuits; its taste for bodily exercises, its love of hardy and skilful sports, and its ambition to excell in them; its aversion to sameness and restraint, in a word, its whole frame and constitution, moral and physical, dissuade from recluse, serious, and sedentary toil, and in many instances place insurmountable barriers of mental repugnance and disgust, between the young student and his task, repelling him yet more invincibly from the long, continued and unbroken labour of dry and elementary study.

Why, then should they, who contending with nature herself, have achieved a harder labour, with less inducement, that is to say, while the fruit it is to bear is yet in the distance, and scarcely discernible to their remote view; why should they faint or stumble in the smoother way that follows, when their efforts will be invited by the riper tastes of manhood, impelled and cheered by sensible and immediate recompence?

——— *Servetur ad imum*, to borrow the words of the Roman poet, when he instructed the theatre to imitate life and nature by the consistency of dramatic character,

Servetur ad imum,
Qualis ab incepto processerit et sibi constet.

With these sentiments, therefore, and in this spirit of flattering prognostication, I call up once more our young worthies to their rewards, not of dry laurel, as I trust, plucked for the decoration of a single festival and then to wither, but living plants, still cultured by the hands that won them, to put forth perennial shade and verdure, and flourish with their age.

Degrees of honour have been granted to the following students for high proficiency in the several languages, which I shall specify with their names, following the order in which they have been classed by the college council in their two reports of January and July of the present year.

Mr. Holt Mackenzie, has obtained a degree of honour, in Persian, Hindoostanee and Bengalee.

Mr. Mortlock, in Persian and Hindoostanee.

Mr. Magniac, in Persian, Hindoostanee and Arabic.

Mr. Hans Sotheby, in Persian.

Mr. Robert Merttins Bird, in Persian, Hindoostanee and Bengalee.

Mr. Prinsep, in Persian, Hindoostanee and Bengalee.

Mr. Porcher, in Bengalee.

Mr. Belli, in Bengalee.

Medals of merit were also awarded in January, 1810, to Mr. Mackenzie, Mr. Fane, and Mr. Porcher, for proficiency in the Bengalee language.

And in July, 1810, to Mr. Molony and Mr. Porcher, in Persian—Mr. Bird, in Arabic—Mr. Molony and Mr. Bayley, in Hindoostanee—Mr. Porcher, Mr. Belli, Mr. Bird, and Mr. Prinsep, in Bengalee.

The greater number of these names have already been mentioned with the honour that is due to them, as eminent examples of a quick progress in study. In justice to such as have not fallen under that particular head of commendation, I am desirous of noticing their specific and respective merits, in this place.

I must, indeed, begin by naming once more a gentleman, whose successful studies elsewhere, improved by the assiduous exercise of the same talents in the college of Fort William, have proved that he was made to honour any master, and to illustrate any school, of which he should be a disciple. I speak of Mr. Magniac, and I return to his name, principally for the purpose of recording a sentiment, which, I am sure, has been shared by all those whom I address. I have a pleasure, therefore, in professing, and I venture to do so in the name of this college, the cordial and lively satisfaction with which we have seen Mr. Magniac restored to the service, and to that career of public duty and personal distinction, in which we had known him so well prepared to run a useful and honourable course.

The sentence, which threatened us with the disappointment of so fair promise before the hour of performance was allowed, was pronounced in a spirit of laudable abhorrence of abuse, which at once shielded the honourable company itself, from the evils consequent on corruption, and the members of that court which administers their affairs from the foulest personal reproach. The measure, therefore, which in its general scope enveloped Mr. Magniac, was necessary to protect at once the purity and the reputation of the company and its service, being at the same time strictly warranted by frequent, but ineffectual promulgations of the penalty. But this politic severity, involving in its remedial principle,

though with some violence to moral justice, the innocent, and even, as in this case, the meritorious objects of the abuse to be corrected, along with its agents and instruments, who were the only guilty parties, must have been, and we know it was in fact, inflicted with much reluctance and regret. The equitable and indulgent character of the honourable court even left, in the moment of its greatest austerity, room for consoling hope, that when the ends of all human penalties should appear to have been obtained, some healing principle of exception would in their liberality, be found, to withdraw at least signal merit from the altar which seemed to demand an indiscriminate sacrifice of guilt and innocence to public purity.

In this hope we have not been deceived. I had proposed from this very chair to attempt a mediation between general and individual justice, and to intercede in the name of the college of Fort William, and of our learned countrymen in Asia, for an exemption, which in preserving one of our fairest ornaments, should at the same time relieve the different branches of the company's administration, from the singular contradiction of dealing rewards and penalties on the same head at the same time; afflicting the desert which we applaud; and mixing brambles with our bays, to wound the very brows round which we are binding the wreath of merit.

For this purpose I should have borne a testimony with truth, and have urged it with a decent zeal of worth, fortified with the strong sanction of a body, capable of appreciating, and entitled to pronounce on the conduct they commend.

This intervention has proved superfluous. The justice, wisdom, and tenderness of the honourable court have conspired to prevent our solicitations and anticipate our wishes.

Let me here invite my younger hearers to remark how the intrinsic powers of merit are exemplified in the restoration of Mr. Magniac. It has already been his ransom from a great evil, and we may reasonably indulge the belief, that it will hereafter prove no less efficacious in achieving the positive benefits of fortune and distinction.

Mr. Hans Sotheby, entered the college in August, 1808, and was qualified to quit it, at the examination of January, 1810. In a year and four months, his talents and diligence mastered four oriental languages, the Arabic, Persian, Hindoostanee and Bengalee. In each of these studies he placed himself on a high form; and striking out, as I must, from every estimate of merit, those colossal strides of a brother, whom he need not be ashamed to avow also for his model, which would cease to be prodigies if often repeated. Mr. Hans Sotheby has justified the praise I have always wished to bestow upon him, and it is the highest I can pronounce, of kindred desert with an elder, whose name must long and ever stand most eminent in the rolls of the college of Fort William.

Mr. Prinsep, in eleven months, from July 1809 to June 1810, conquered three languages, and placed himself first in Persian, second in Hindoostanee, and fourth in Bengalee. These labours could not be accomplished in so short a space either by assiduous dulness, or by the parts of a slack student; and they rank Mr. Prinsep amongst the fortunate possessors of talents and application, conspiring to mutual efficiency, and forming, when united, the best, if not the only guides to excellence.

I have reserved the name of Mr. Bird, for the close of this head of my discourse, that I might mark with the deeper impression a praise in which few have shared, but which, as often as the occasion recurs, must be sounded by me with a willing voice.

Mr. Bird, between November 1808 and January 1810, had made himself proficient in three languages, standing third in Bengalee, sixth in Persian and Hindoostanee. The examiners and the council of the college had reported him qualified, as, indeed, he was in a high degree, to quit the college, and enter on the public service. The flattering prospect thus opened to him did not damp his ardour for liberal acquirement, or divert him from the yet more

generous love of perfection, and aim at excellence. He requested permission to refrain another season from the world, its business and allurements, and to continue studies, no longer necessary for the ordinary purposes of fortune and advancement, but to be pursued for their own attractions; attractions felt by such minds as Mr. Bird's, as beauty or virtue without wealth are courted by generous suitors.

I have already, on more than one occasion, dwelt on this theme, as on one peculiarly grateful to my mind, and to the office I have the honour to fill in this institution; because while the conduct which I commend leads to the highest improvement of literary acquirement, it displays the rare union of youthful ardour with mature judgment and manly constancy; it shews a mind so happily constituted, as yet in the age of delusive views concerning the world and its pursuits, and before it can have been tutored by reflection or experience, to discern, as with an instinct, or intuition of a higher order, the just objects of intellectual exertion, and to point its young vigour with an adult and manly aim. It sets before us the most captivating and the most admirable objects, which the riches and beauty of nature afford, the young blossom and the ripened fruit adorning the same bough. It is not Mr. Bird, to whom we need recal the poet's precept, "drink deep, or taste not." The surface cannot slacken his profounder thirst.—The same well-directed zeal which has already forbidden him to halt at the first stage of juvenile attainments, and would press him still onward to the higher regions of learning, bespeaks a principle of wider range than scholarship alone, and affords, not the promise but the assurance, that whatever the pursuit of his ardent but constant mind may be, mediocrity will not suffice, while the further goal of excellence is open to his view.

I am now called to a less gracious duty, in noticing, with impartiality, the defects which in some degree obscure the lustre of the year, exceptions which must be deemed incident to all numerous bodies. We are not to wonder, nor should we impute it as matter of reproach to an association constituted as this is, that in the number, some few of its members, fortuitously assembled as they are, should be found less happily gifted in genius, or less inclined to supply what may be wanting in capacity, by those substitute qualities of assiduity and diligence, which even the dull may command, and which they can justify the want of, perhaps less than the lively student. In confessing that some example, of slow progress, ending in but moderate and imperfect attainment, have been furnished in the late examination. I shall indulge my repugnance to this side of the picture so far as to suppress the names which cannot partake in the general honours of this collegiate year. I am happy, also, to qualify the absence of higher praise, by acknowledging, with much satisfaction, that some effort has not been wanting to regain lost ground, and that a few gentlemen who were the subjects of admonition on a former occasion, have since qualified themselves for the service, by a knowledge reported to be competent of two languages. I have satisfaction in naming those to whom this degree of commendation is due, and withdrawing from Mr. Charles Richard Barwell, Mr. Blagrave, and Mr. Jennings, any share of the reflections which may have attached to them in my last discourse, and which may have left uneasy impressions on their minds.

Another gentleman has attained proficiency in one language, the Bengalee, after an attendance in college of more than three years and a half.

So small a progress can challenge no merit, which can compensate for the inadequacy of his qualification for the duties of public office; but it has been determined, and that in a spirit of indulgence, to allow him the probation of another year. I might perhaps, in the hope of a favourable result, have omitted even an allusion to this gentleman, if I had not reason to apprehend that a disposition has arisen to misinterpret a degree of indulgence, which in February, 1808, was extended, under very special circumstances, to

two gentlemen who had acquired a competent knowledge of only one language, and to spread an expectation that gentlemen would be indiscriminately admitted to serve in the commercial branch, with that defective qualification.

The principles on which the exception alluded to was made, were so explicitly stated in my discourse upon that occasion, that it appears difficult to have misunderstood them; and to rectify such an error, it might seem sufficient to refer to that explanation. For the purpose, however, of arresting the progress of so pernicious a misconception, I am desirous of taking this opportunity of unequivocally reminding the students of the college of Fort William, that one language will not suffice, and that a competence in two will be required, without distinction as to the particular line of the service, which the taste, or perhaps under the mistake which I am now correcting, the indolence of the student might lead him to prefer. Feeling forcibly, from the experiment already made, it is with much reluctance I am constrained to advert in this place to the express mention in the report of the college council of three students who have made no progress in any language in a period of nearly three years. It has been determined to afford them the opportunity of one year more, to redeem their forfeited reputation, and to avert the inevitable consequences to their views in life, their character and fortune, of a perseverance in the breach of every duty to themselves, to their parents, their friends, and their employers, which, after the admonitions already more than once repeated, will add the offence of contumacy to all that was before culpable in their conduct.

I am grieved to say, that their minds do not seem, or have not yet been found accessible to the higher and more honourable inducements which have been held out to them in exhortations conveyed with tenderness and directed to their own benefit. I am under a necessity, therefore, which I have sought in vain to avoid, of employing a different tone of expostulation, and of presenting to them, motives more ignoble than those which have hitherto operated on the least meritorious of their cotemporaries. I am to announce, therefore, the resolutions adopted by the college, and by the government, that those who shall be found disqualified at their fourth annual examination, by the want of proficiency in two languages, shall be dismissed from the college as incapable of benefiting by the instruction it affords, and suspended the service as entirely deficient in the qualifications it requires, until the pleasure of the court of directors shall be known, unless the honourable court should be in the interval, as it is not improbable they may, have signified their approbation of the absolute and final dismissal, without reference, of these unprofitable servants.

It is with pleasure that I turn from this afflicting part of my duty, to report, in the accustomed and well justified terms of approbation, the continued display of eminent talents, assiduity, constancy and zeal, in the discharge of severe and laborious functions, for which the learned professors, and officers of the college of Fort William, European and Native, have ever stood distinguished. This tribute will be found in several instances due not exclusively to the faithful and able performance of duties purely academical, but to the voluntary extension of labours already sufficiently weighty, in works of learning, which I shall have the satisfaction of noticing in the sequel of this discourse.

There is a topic, however, extremely interesting to the general cause of oriental learning, as well as to this college, and to the honourable company's service in India, which I would first propose to touch upon, and from which I am unwilling any longer to refrain entirely, as I have hitherto done, although the materials we possess will afford even yet only a slight and somewhat anticipated notice of the subject I refer to.

I have been desirous of collecting such information as might enable me to report some probable judgment con-

cerning the operation of the knowledge acquired at the college of Hertford, on the subsequent studies of its members at Fort William. But the experiment is yet too recent and imperfect to furnish a mature and well-grounded opinion.

The experience hitherto acquired on this subject appears to be defective in two respects.

First, too small a proportion of the students hitherto received from Hertford, have passed through the full course of oriental study, intended by the regulations of that college, to precede the departure of the pupils for India. The late foundation of that institution did not indeed admit earlier than last year, of the regulation which relates to that point, being finally and completely in force.

But in the next place the college itself is too young, to have attained the more perfect powers of instruction which may hereafter, and probably soon enable it to send forth periodically, and transfer to the college of Fort William, a succession of scholars possessing the full measure of acquirement, which the prescribed term of three years attendance at Hertford, may be capable of affording.

The study of the Hindoostanee language, had not been allotted to those members of Hertford college, who were appointed to Bengal at the date of the last advices; and the extensive and various course of general study, embraced, I think wisely, and I do not doubt, it will prove beneficially, in the scheme of education assigned to that institution, will always appear to leave some disadvantage on the college at Hertford, in a comparison with the college of Fort William, on the single point of progress during equal periods of study, in the oriental languages.

The absence at Hertford, of another advantageous incident to the local situation of our college in Bengal, must unavoidably continue, in all times, and under all circumstances, to give to the latter a decided superiority in oriental pursuits.

It will be enough to observe, that two of the languages which are taught here, the Hindoostanee and Bengalee, are vernacular; and the student, in the hours of leisure or amusement, and without fatigue or design, is quickening imperceptibly the sedentary labours of his class by the practice of living tongues; while his grammatical and critical studies are correcting the inaccuracies, and refining the rudeness of colloquial intercourse.

The student is at the same time surrounded by, and living with learned men, native and European, who are at once familiarly and profoundly conversant in all the objects of his study. It is difficult to appreciate this advantage too highly; but it is manifest that no such aid can be furnished for the promotion of study, where both instruction and practice are exclusively supplied by a single master, or by two or three individuals, to a multitude of scholars, who with many different and distinct occupations under other instructors, are living at home, where no language but their own is spoken, and where both the characters and sounds of those which they are studying, so far from familiar, are yet regarded with the sort of wonder which one sees bestowed by the vulgar on some impenetrable and unintelligible mystery.

Under these disadvantages, inherent in the nature of the case, and yet greater at this early period than they may hereafter be, it must be satisfactory to those who founded, or who now favour that establishment, that I am enabled, in the absence of more ample grounds for a judgment on the subject, to say, from my own observation, that we have already derived some of our most distinguished ornaments from Hertford college. I do not speak of the merit to which I now allude, in comparison only with that of cotemporaries of the present year; but I would place it confidently in parallel with the best and brightest period of our college.

To warrant this homage, justly and impartially paid to the early fruit of our new, not rival, but associate institution, I have only to name

Mr. Holt Mackenzie,
Mr. Hans Sotheby,
Mr. Bird,

Mr. Prinsep,
Mr. Porcher,
Mr. Molony,
Mr. Bayley, and
Mr. Belli.

It is with peculiar pleasure that I do a further justice to Hertford college, by remarking that the official reports and returns of our college will shew the students who have been translated from Hertfort to Fort William, to stand honourably distinguished for regular attendance, for obedience to the statutes and discipline of the college, for orderly and decorous demeanour, for moderation in expense, and consequently in the amount of their debt, and in a word for those decencies of conduct which denote men well born, and characters well trained. I make this observation with the more satisfaction as I entertain an earnest wish to find it proved, that the preliminary tuition, and general instruction afforded to the succeeding generations of the company's servants at Hertford, will be found of more extensive, I should almost be disposed to say, of more valuable influence, even for India, than a greater or smaller degree of proficiency in a language or two of the east, can prove at that early period.

I am happy, also, to have the authority of one professor of this college for saying, although the Hindoostanee language does not appear to have been taught at Hertford to the students destined to Bengal, "that the course of study in the Hindoostanee in the college of Fort William, has been generally shortened by that in the Persian at Hertford, and in the instances of those who had made any proficiency in the latter, very considerably so."

I cannot better convey the sentiments of another learned professor, of very high authority in this college, and in the whole body of oriental scholars, than in his own words:

"On the whole, I am satisfied from the opinions which I have heard, that the Persian department of Hertford college is in a progressive state of improvement, and that its effects will be shortly perceptible in the abbreviated period of our studies here."

It will appear from these short remarks that several important benefits have already been derived from the institution at Hertford; the utility of that establishment has even thus early been made sensible, first by the positive acquirements of its pupils, which although inconsiderable and merely elementary in oriental study, have been felt to contribute materially to the advancement of the same pursuits at Fort William; but next, and principally, by a salutary influence on conduct and character both moral and academical.

We are entitled also to anticipate with hope and expectation, the growth and future promise of our younger, but sister academy. Her progress is now perceptible, and we may look to the approaching maturity of an institution already prospering, for the full accomplishment of every useful purpose, that under the peculiarities of local situation, and their necessary influence on the object in view, it could ever be reasonable to contemplate from that foundation.

That the studies of Hertford will abridge those of Fort William, cannot be doubted. This has already been proved.

That the latter will at all times, and after the new college shall have attained its highest perfection, still remain indispensable, for affording even the competence of oriental knowledge and practice, required for mere official use, but much more indispensable towards a higher cultivation of these languages, and the desirable promotion of a general taste for eastern philology and literature, can as little be doubted.

It is at this college alone, that any general approach to excellence can be hoped for, and to withhold from the preliminary course of Hertford, the supplemental polish, as well as the familiar practice of our truly oriental school, would be to condemn the service of Bengal to perpetual mediocrity, and to substitute the accessary for the principal, that is to say, a scheme of in-

struction, necessarily defective and circumscribed, for the wide, fertile, and copious range which we already possessed before the institution at Hertford was established.

But as this subject would lead to a wider field than I can now engage in, and as the discussion is not called for by any apprehension that the facilities afforded by the liberal institution of Hertford College, to the beginning of oriental study, will be converted into obstacles at its close, and so, instead of promoting, be made to forbid excellence, and bar us from the goal towards which it has been the object of the same establishment to render our first steps more smooth and easy, I shall, for the present, refrain from the further prosecution of this interesting matter.

I proceed to the notice of such literary works as have been executed or undertaken since the last disputations.

The professor of the Persian and Arabic languages having nearly completed his elaborate grammar of the former of these tongues, has commenced an Arabic grammar on the same extensive scale. The composition of a work which will unlock the treasure of knowledge on the structure of that majestic, copious, and most artificial language, hitherto laid up in the compositions of learned oriental writers, and very imperfectly disclosed by the labours of their brethren in Europe, must necessarily occupy several years. In the mean time, it will be satisfactory to those who are engaged in so interesting and useful a study, to know that other helps towards the acquisition of its grammatical principles, agreeable to the system of instruction used by the Native literati, will speedily be afforded to them.

The first of these is a translation of a treatise on the permutation of letters *euphonicæ gratiâ*, which is very frequent in this language, and constitutes one of its principal difficulties. It was drawn up in Persian by the late Maulavi Roshen Ali, for the use of the Arabic students in the college, and is now translated into English by Dr. Tytler, who has for some time attended the lectures of the college, and benefited by the opportunities of instruction which it affords.

The second is a translation from Arabic of three elementary treatises on the syntax of that language, viz. the Miat Aumil; a Commentary on the same; and the Kafiyah of Ibny Hajib, by lieutenant Lockett, one of the examiners in the college. To the Kafiyah, a work of unrivalled celebrity in the east, as containing one of the most ancient and compendious systems of the grammatical science of the Arabs, will be added notes and illustrations from its most esteemed commentary, the Shereh Mulla, with an attempt to exhibit a general comparative view of the peculiarities that serve to distinguish the grammatical structure of the language from that of others.

For the greater practical utility, the translator has proposed to add a praxis from the Mukamat i Hariri and Ikhun us Safa, with a translation of the Tahzib ul Mantik, or a synopsis of Arabic logic, and a vocabulary of the principal words, with a literal explanation and analysis.

The first volume of the Mukamat i Hariri, which was noticed last year, has been completed.

A selection from the most classical works in the Persian language has been prepared for the use of that class under the direction of the professor. It is intended to occupy six quarto volumes, of which three have been published.

In the Hindustanee language, a considerable number of works in prose were published, at a very early period of the institution, under the superintendance of Dr. Gilchrist, the first professor of that tongue. But there was a want of specimens of poetical composition; some of the most esteemed among the prose works are now out of print; and the cultivation of that language having gradually advanced, seems to require, even in prose, specimens of a higher style of composition than have yet been laid before the public. To supply these wants, the following works, some of which are already completed, have been undertaken, at the recommenda-

tion, and under the inspection, of the present learned Professor.

1.—A selection from the works of *Mir Soz*, a Hindustanee poet of considerable celebrity, consisting of Odes and Tetrastichs.

2.—A more copious collection from *Mirza Rafia-us-Sauda*, who is deservedly esteemed the prince of Hindustanee poets. This exhibits the most exquisite specimens of all the varieties of poetical composition in the language; and in this instance, a judicious selection has one important advantage over a complete edition of the author's works, because, while in his satirical compositions especially, he breathes a spirit which may entitle him to be called the oriental *Juvenal*, he shares not a little in the indelicacy of the Roman poet. All passages of the latter description have been carefully excluded from the present collection.

3.—A translation into Hindustanee or Urdu prose of part of the *Ikhwan us Safa*, an Arabic work in high estimation The portion which has been selected, describes a dispute carried on before an impartial judge, between mankind and other animals; the former claiming dominion over all the rest, and the latter asserting their independence. The arguments on both sides, are delivered in language highly characteristic of the different speakers, and the translation has been executed by *Maulavi Turah Ali*, a native of Lucknow, eminently skilled both in Arabic and Hindustanee, assisted by the learned natives in the Hindustanee department of the College.

Farther help in the acquisition of the grammatical principles of this useful language has been afforded to the junior students, both European and Native, by the publication of a short system of rules in Hindustanee verse, the work of *Maulavi Amanet Ullah* of the Hindustanee department of the College. As conveying at once, idiomatical and grammatical instruction in easy versification, this work cannot fail to prove an useful aid to the memory of the student.

In the dialects which are more peculiar to the Hindu inhabitants of these provinces, the following works have been undertaken.

1. The *Ramayan* of *Tuis Das* in the Purbi dialect, or that used in the provinces situated to the eastward of Delhi, as Oude and Benares. It is a popular and admired poem, on a favourite subject of Hindu Mythology.

2. The *Sat-sai* of *Behari Lal*, a poem, highly esteemed as one of the most classical works in the old Hindee or *Brij Bhakha*, that is, the dialect that prevails about *Muttra* and *Agra*.

These two works have been printed at the Shanscrit press.

3. A collection of stories in the Hindustanee and Hindvi languages.

4. Grammatical principles of the *Brij Bhakha* dialect, with an English translation.

5. A continuation of the *Prem Sagar*, or history of *Krishn*, translated from the tenth chapter of the *Bhagawat*, the first part of which was published some years ago.

6. *Rajniti*, or admonition to kings, a work on morality and the principles of government, taken from the celebrated *Hitopadesa*, and translated into the dialect of *Brij*.

The four last mentioned works are the composition of *Shri Lullh Lal Cab*, the Bhakn Munshi attached to the Hindustanee department.

Of the vernacular language of Bengal, an extensive dictionary, compiled by the learned professor of that language, is in considerable forwardness, and will issue from the Mission press at Serampore.

In the mean time, a vocabulary, Bengalee and English, a work useful to be committed to memory by students commencing the study of this language, has been published by *Mohem Pershad Thacur* a learned native attached to the college.

As an original composition in this language, may be mentioned the history of Hindustan, compiled by the head Pundit in this department of the college. This work is now in the press of Serampore, and may soon be expected to appear.

Of the Mahratta tongue a dictionary has been published at the Mission press, and forms an important addition to the stock of literary wealth, especially at a time when circumstances have ren-

dered the acquisition of that language of greater consequence than it ever was before.

While so much has been done to facilitate the acquisition of languages, the cultivation of other branches of science has not been neglected. That of jurisprudence in particular, the study of which is become an object of primary necessity to the greatest part of the company's servants, and especially to those entrusted with the most important duties, has received, or is about to receive, the most valuable illustration. The Persian translation of the Hydaya, which was made by a society of learned natives, by order of Mr. Hastings, and has been carefully corrected by Maulavi Muhummed Rashid, one of the officers of the court of Sudder Dewany and Nizamet Adawlet, was put to the press about four years ago, by order of government, and is now completed. This will supply to the Persian student the omissions of the English translation made by captain Hamilton, as well as correct some deviations from the sense of the original which have been discovered in that translation; and it will render that work, which is of high authority in all questions of Mohammedan law, more accessible to the native law officers attached to the courts of justice.

To supply the want of the law of inheritance in the Hydaya, a Persian translation of the Siuajjiah, with its commentary the Sherisiah, which are well known by the English version of sir William Jones, is now in the press and will soon be published.

A similar defect in the digest of Hindu law, for the translation of which the world is indebted to the learning and industry of Mr. Colebrook, is about to be supplied by the pen of the same gentleman, in a translation of two works of high authority, with copious notes and illustrations: the Daya Bhaga, a treatise on inheritance, by Ibmuta Vahana, and the law of inheritance from the Mitachara, a commentary, by Vijnyaneswara, on the institutes of Yajnyabalcya. The one is a work held in great estimation in the province of Bengal; the other is a standard authority throughout India.

Lieut. Galloway, a gentleman who has with great industry and success devoted much of his time to the study of the Arabic language, and of Mohammedan law, is employed in the translation of the Muktesiri Kuduri, a celebrated treatise on Mohammedan law, by the learned Shaikh Abul Husain Ahmed of Bagdad, comprehending the judicial system, civil and criminal, the canon law and religious institutions of the Mussulmens, and considered by the followers of Abu Hanisa, a work of the highest authority. The translator has announced his intention to annex illustrations, where requisite, from all the books of authority, so as to render the system as complete as possible.

In the science of geography Dr. Leyden has undertaken to publish in Arabic, with an English translation, the work of the celebrated Ibn ul Wardik, entitled, Kerridut-ool-Ajayeb, which is regarded in Arabic as a work of the most classical authority in the science; the author being esteemed more accurate in his information, and more free from credulity than any who have either preceded or followed him. This cannot fail to be a valuable addition to the scanty stock of materials which we hitherto possess regarding the descriptive geography of regions, whose princes and inhabitants formerly acted a most conspicuous part on the theatre of the world.

The first volume of the works of Confucius, which was announced last year, has been lately issued from the Mission press at Serampore, and is preceded by a dissertation on the Chinese language, which throws considerable light on that very singular and obscure system.

This work contains the text of the venerable author printed in the Chinese character, the types of which have been prepared and submitted to the press by the patient and ingenious industry of the translator and editor. The translation is referred, by numbers over each sentence, to the corresponding words of the Chinese text, and is accompanied by an ample commentary.

This book, therefore, while it renders the long-venerated lessons of the Chinese sage, accessible for the first time to an English reader, furnishes also the best clue to guide the inquisitive student through the unexplored labyrinths of this extraordinary language, and supplies perhaps the only elementary aid which can be provided for the acquisition of a language constructed upon a plan so anomalous, as to exclude, or I should, perhaps, rather say, as to seem to exclude the application of those grammatical theories which have indeed been deduced from languages after their practical use had been established, but the universal principles of which must be thought to have presided in the origin and regulation of oral and written transmission of thought in all its possible or imaginable modes and forms. Mr. Marshman, both by the principal work, and by his preliminary dissertation, appears to have led the way in reconciling this apparent anomaly with the general and fundamental principles of human intercourse; and, by letting in light upon this Chinese mystery, to have done something towards its solution.

I cannot willingly omit the opportunity which this singular publication presents of offering the homage which appears to me to be due to this laudable effort of modest genius and labour, which has pushed forward the apparently hopeless project of forming a Chinese school, under circumstances so little propitious to such an undertaking, to a point of success and efficiency, which larger means and more powerful encouragement could hardly have justified a hope of attaining.

This commendable design has advanced, however, silently, without aid or notice, by the innate powers of strenuous, though humble and unassuming energy of mind, directed by liberal and virtuous views. What Mr. Marshman has already accomplished, both in the tuition of his young but distinguished pupils, and in works, the produce of self-instruction, would have done honour to institutions fostered by all the aids of munificence and power; to have risen, in the shade *ipse suis pollens opibus*, renders his successful labours only the more worthy of admiration.

The printed vocabularies which were circulated in a former year, with a request that they might be filled up with the local dialects and peculiar languages of different districts of these provinces, and of the contiguous countries, have produced a single, but valuable accession to philological science, in a communication received from Mr. Masters at Chittagong, under whose superintendance a vocabulary of the Maga language has been compiled. A careful examination of it has shewn how much is due to the laudable exertions of that gentleman in so unfrequented a walk of literature: for every page of it manifests the high degree of care and assiduity which has been bestowed on the work, though Mr. Masters with great modesty declines the personal merit of its execution. This successful specimen demonstrates, in the most satisfactory manner, the great advantage which must result to the study of languages, as well as to historical researches relative to the Indian nations, from the completion of the enlarged plan of comparative vocabularies, proposed by the council of the college. Praise is due, therefore, to Mr. Masters, not only for the correct manner in which the work communicated by him has been executed, but also for the superior exertions which he has made, in being the first to present a valuable contribution towards the accomplishment of an interesting object, which has been recommended by government, to the attention of those whose local situation affords the opportunity of promoting its attainment.

It was mentioned in my last discourse, that as an extension of the design just alluded to, it was in the contemplation of government to print and circulate vocabularies in the Berman and Malay languages for the purpose of acquiring specimens of the numerous and almost unknown languages spoken in the countries between India and China, and in the eastern isles. In pursuance of this intention, the pro-

posed vocabulary has been prepared in the Berman and Malay, to which has been added the Siamese language, and measures are in progress for its circulation to the eastward. Dr. Leyden had already pushed his comprehensive and powerful researches in that direction, and has been enabled to supply materials, and carry the work into complete execution, from the abundant and various stores of his own knowledge, which embraces these hitherto neglected languages, availing himself at the same time of such aid, as could be obtained in this place.

The vocabulary, to which are prefixed preliminary observations by Dr. Leyden, and alphabets of the Berman and Malay languages, has been printed at the Mission press at Serampor.

If we except the publication of the Berman alphabet at Rome, by the Propaganda Society, this is the first European attempt to cultivate the knowledge of the Berman and Siamese languages. By the circulation of this vocabulary in three of the most extensive and original of the more Eastern languages, three different sources will be opened for investigation, each of which will supply a medium for the progressive increase of the collection of vocabularies.

In forming this collection, as our views extend to a variety of nations beyond the pale of the English government, or its direct influence, we anticipate the cordial assistance of all well-informed Europeans, as well as of our own countrymen.

To this hope we have had early encouragement from the liberal and active zeal with which this plan has already been seconded by some Spanish gentlemen of Manilla, who contemplated the establishment of a learned and philosophical institution, to be denominated "*the literary society of the Philippines*," at whose desire several copies of this vocabulary have been forwarded to Manilla, for the purpose of being filled up with the corresponding terms in the different languages of that extensive Archipelago.

The length of this discourse, occasioned by the abundance of matter, which I have been unable to compress, will admit but of a short valediction.

I welcome those who have quitted with honour the college for the world, and have passed forward from the season of instruction to that of action.

Their new harness will sit easy upon necks which have borne sturdily a heavier yoke, and, like well-trained legions, they will find the service of the field lighter than the discipline of the camp; while their past labours shall be the measure by which they may surely claim future confidence and favour.

To you, who have yet to win the prizes which you have seen, this day, dispensed to your seniors, I can address no better exhortation than to tread in the footsteps which the more illustrious of your predecessors have left upon the course you are yourselves to run. Fix your eyes steadily upon the same goal, and let your hopes of attaining it be built exclusively on vigorous exertion and only constancy. Ply your labours, and distrust all other means of success. Above all beware of a treacherous confidence in the advantage of supposed superiority of talents. These, unsupported by industry, will drop you midway, or perhaps will not yet have started when the diligent traveller will have won the race. Be assured that in study, application is the first, the second, and the third virtue; application, not *per saltum*, not in capricious fits, not with ebbs and flows of indolence and exertion; ardent indeed, may it be, but uniform and unabating. Those among the Grecian youth who aspired to the Olympic crown and immortality, would by no means trust their hopes to the flattering gifts of nature, however lavishly endowed, but fought to fix their fortune, and secure their laurel, by long and vigorous preparations for the contest.

Be these your models; and crowns shall not be wanting to reward your toil, and grace your victory.

Petition of the Bullocks of Calcutta to their fellow citizens of the human species.

HUMBLY SHEWETH,

That your petitioners are of the family of the Gods; and but for the cruelty of man, they would now enjoy a sacred character, together with sundry inestimable privileges, which many of their near and dear relations at this moment happily enjoy.

That the spoliation barbarously committed upon their persons by the hand of man, has degraded them from the rank which they ought to hold among animals—has deprived them of every domestic comfort, the sweet solace of connubial intercourse, the pride of paternity—the transport of beholding a cherished offspring prosperous and happy, the consolations which the soothing cares and tender assiduities of such an offspring afford in the decline of life; and in short, of all those enjoyments, which render life itself a valuable possession, and distinguish the bull from the bullock.

That this outrage against nature, has not been sufficient to satisfy the cruelty of man, who in return for many useful services, rendered by your petitioners, treats them with contumely and neglect—rewards their labors with blows—goads them on to efforts, beyond their strength—inflicts tortures of every kind, not respecting even the poor remains of their lost dignities—and finally, abandons them, famished—exhausted—spiritless—mutilated—covered with sores and wounds—a hideous spectacle, abhorrent to themselves, and shocking to the more compassionate animals, who witness their misery and sufferings.

Yes Man,—inhuman Man,
Arm'd with a little mock authority,
Doth play such pranks behind the *general hospital*,
As makes poor *bullocks* weep!

Your petitioners are too well acquainted with human nature to expect, that they should become the objects of a gratuitous liberality; but they do think that self interest, that great prevailing principle, which governs both man and bullocks, might dictate a more humane and considerate proceeding towards them.

Your petitioners submit that it has been held by ancient authorities, that wheels should be round, and that they should stand or roll upright, whereas the wheels in modern use, are often of such singular figure and construction, having such various and irregular inclinations, as utterly to puzzle and confound all the mathematical ideas of your petitioners.

Your petitioners are fully aware that tar and grease are luxuries, and they admit that the sailor boy, who must needs indulge in such dainties, was properly punished for his epicurism; but they must contend notwithstanding, and upon the soundest principles of commercial œconomy, that those articles might be used, in moderate quantity, with eminent advantage.

For if, by such appliances, the degree of friction could be diminished—if by the application of mathematical science in the construction and disposition of wheels—if by the use of suitable harness, and by the establishment of a regulation, for apportioning the draft to the powers of the cattle, your petitioners could be relieved from a small part of their present grievances, they would engage to perform two or more journies, where they now perform one, to the great profit of their employers—to the advantage of the consumers of bricks, firewood, and timber; and to the great comfort of the frequenters of those excellent roads, which are now so prematurely cut up, and destroyed.

Your petitioners must observe that, under such a regulation, they would not only live more comfortably, and live longer in a state fit for service, but they would in the end, be found very excellent food for the most fastidious appetite, whereas in their present lamentable condition, their poor carcases would be spurned by the most voracious tiger.

Among minor advantages, your petitioners would hint that, by the use of a little tar and grease, it might be practicable to subdue those discordant sounds, which jar and afflict the delicate ears and souls of the musical, in a degree to be equalled only by the jarring of your petitioners' bones.

Your petitioners, without entertaining any unreasonable expectations, do most humbly submit, that, in the present rage for making roads and digging canals, some attention might be paid to their accommodation. For example, a few spans of brick road, from one of the Ghauts at Tolly's Nullah to the road passing from the general hospital, would render one of the great theatres of your petitioners' suffering, a safe and delightful promenade.

Your petitioners are fully aware that any regulation, which might be established for preserving the rights of animals, and for remedying those grievances of which they complain, might and would be egregiously abused by the lower officers of police or others, who should be appointed to enforce it; but this being a common and a necessary evil, it must be submitted to, and your petitioners would still derive a melancholy consolation, from beholding their present unfeeling task-masters fined, pounded, beaten, and oppressed, after the manner in which they are accustomed to beat, torture, and distress your indignant petitioners.

Finally, your petitioners must observe, that they are a peaceful, contemplative animal, much addicted to philosophical musing, or what is called chewing the cud; and little disposed to quarrel with man or tigers. They submit that man, in the exercise of his power, should be merciful—it is sufficiently mortifying that your petitioners should be placed under the government of those who are scarcely their superiors in intellectual endowments—they esteem it evil enough that they should be degraded to their present unnatural and humiliating condition—that they should be doomed to be eaten, to pass incontinently into the maw of some odious glutton, without any certainty of the immortality of the soul. They do therefore insist that they ought not in this life, to be plagued and tormented, to be subjected perpetually to such grievous afflictions of the hand of man, as are calculated to render this paragon of animals an object of abhorrence in their sight, and to excite in the minds of your petitioners certain doubts, whether this favorite of the heavens has been fashioned, animated, and impelled, by a disposing providence. And your petitioners, &c.

THE PRINCIPALITY OF SIND.

A POLITICAL communication has been lately opened between the British Government in India and the principality of Sind—a narrow but fertile tract of country, which extends along both sides of the river Indus from Tatta to Mooltan, and is shut out from all community with the adjacent kingdoms to the east and west, by an almost impenetrable barrier of rocks and desarts. The geographical peculiarities of this insulated state, its political importance (as embracing nearly one half of the natural frontier of Hindoostan,) the obscurity in which every thing connected with it has hitherto been buried, and the fatal termination of a former attempt to bring it within the sphere of British influence, are all of them circumstances calculated to render it an object of particular curiosity. Among other happy results of a late mission, it has opened the stores of information on a subject so eminently important and interesting, and the public will in due time reap the benefits of the disclosure. The embassies to Cabul and Lahore, through no other channels than the private correspondence of the gentlemen attached to them, have served, within the last year, to diffuse a more general and correct knowledge of those remote and unfrequented countries, of their inhabitants, their political strength and relations, than in the common course of things could have been expected or imagined. But, with respect to Sind, there are few hitherto, who have heard more of the country than its name. The principality of Sind forms, nominally, a part of the tributary dominions of the King of Cabul. In common, however, with all the remote dependencies of that state, it has fallen off, amid

the civil convulsions by which Cabul has so long been distracted; and it may now be considered as virtually independent. Sind, is at present governed by a triumvirate of three Brothers;—the eldest of whom, having the largest share of the public revenue, possesses consequently the leading influence in public affairs, and is ostensibly set forth as the supreme head of the government.—This triumvirate exercises a power absolutely despotic, and displays, in the maxims of its administration, all the ignorance and avarice, which are common to the great body of eastern potentates. The present dynasty have not been established for more than 30 years; and the jealous timidity conspicuous in their policy evinces their own sense of the insecurity of the tenure by which they still hold possession of the throne.

The inhabitants of Sind are represented by the gentlemen who visited that country with Mr. Smith as a people recently emerged from barbarism, who have not yet attained that pitch of improvement, which, by introducing the virtues, the knowledge, and the comforts peculiar to civilized life, atones for the loss of those ruder excellencies, which enter into the character of the savage.

The army of Sind is estimated at 40,000 men;—a large force, when compared with its territorial extent. The troops are composed of levies raised from the military tribes, which, in their constitution, pretty much resembled the feudal clans of ancient Europe. The amount of the revenue, is supposed to have diminished, in the proportion of nearly one half, since the accession of the present family to the throne. It still, however, is estimated so high as 42 lacs of Rupees per annum.

MAHOMMED NUBBEE KHAN.

The following is a copy of the instrument appointing Mahommed Nubbee Khan, (late Ambassador from the King of Persia to the Government of British India,) to the Office of Viceroy of Fars,

"IN THE NAME OF GOD,

"Given under the great seal of the "King, who is the Father of the "World and its inhabitants.

"The most noble, illustrious, brave, wise, and trust-worthy servant of the king, Mahommed Nubbee Khan may ever stand exalted in the favour of his Majesty. Be it known to him, that we have appointed to the office of Vizier, the star of the royal heaven and the light of the royal moon, our son, Houssein Allee Mirza, late Viceroy of Fars; and, that we require, to supply his place, an able and trusty officer, capable of managing the affairs of the province, of distinguished knowledge, provident in council, and constantly sedulous in business. Therefore, in this year Eelaun Eel, we have chosen, the said most noble and trust worthy person, for this high service,—he being eminently qualified for the same:—that is to say, we have appointed him to the office of Viceroy of Fars, our said son having been raised to the dignity of Vizier. And, in consideration of the favour which we bear towards him, we have ordered, that a khelaat and kulmdhan, ornamented with precious stones, be sent to him from the royal treasury, as a badge of honor, by the hands of the noble and faithful attendant of the royal court, Mirza Ruheem Tubbeeb:—in order that he (Mahommed Nubbee Khan) may receive the same with pride, and may conduct the affairs of his office, in conformity with the royal will.

"It is therefore made known to all the noble and eminent persons, the officers of government and others, lately in the service of our said son, as well as to all the lords of the country, the hakeems, and the inhabitants in general, that the distinguished person above named has been appointed to succeed our said son, and they are hereby required to obey him accordingly."

CHARACTERS.

THE HON. CHARLES ANDREW BRUCE.

[The short biographical sketch of the character of this gentleman is drawn by one who appears to have had a close opportunity of examining its peculiarities, and of ascertaining its worth. He has not glanced at the circumstances of Mr. Bruce's service, by which he distinguished himself eminently, in the employment of the East India Company, and of which it is not intended to give any further account, than that he went to India, in the civil branch of the company's establishment, at an early time of life, and had, but at a short date from the melancholy event, which gives occasion for the memoir, proceeded to Penang, to take upon himself the charge of Prince of Wales's Island; in the government whereof he died.—The gazette of the former place records his death in the following encomiastic, and just terms.]

"To those sad events, of which the commiseration is increased by every reflection on the bitterness of reverse and unexpected occurrence, is to be added the decease of the HONOURABLE C. A. BRUCE, governor of this island, in the full vigour of manhood, in the joy of affluence and station; blest in the possession of present happiness, and warm in rational views of prolonged felicity, a sudden blow has disturbed the dream of enjoyment, and shewn that real satisfaction must be founded on other bases than the fallacies of hope.

"His illness, which in its first stage was attended with excessive pain, was supported with exemplary firmness and resignation. The progress of sickness was watched with calmness; his family supported with manly tenderness, and the unremitting attentions of those whose skill combated the disorder, acknowledged with grateful consideration. The last hours were cheered by a retrospect of tranquil blessings, of which death might interrupt the course, but could not, in his approach, banish the recollection. To those who witnessed the scene, may it be one of lasting example! It may not be without use hastily to collect the leading traits of a life, that gave the greatest comfort, the comfort of peace, at the last.

"In the nearer relations of life, never did man display more engaging sweetness of disposition, more affectionate interest, more unvarying regard, —the anguish of recent misfortune flies from considerations the most consolatory, under the hallowing influence of time. In the relations of father, husband, friend, who that knew him, can need a recital of his worth? To his domestics he was liberal and tender, and in every office of general intercourse, polite, affable, equal.

"The virtues that thus beautified the walk of private life, operated with enlarged influence in a range extended: it was a mind full of active good-will, satisfying itself with no visionary schemes of benevolence, unless it were not unmixed with fancy, to have thought that public benefits might always coincide with individual happiness. In no case was he ever actuated by a selfish view. The motives were ever pure and just; the course direct and honourable. He thought injury to no man. They who saw him nearest, best know, that scarcely could caution

hint at possible evil, when native goodness had palliated the error, or lost the suggestion.

"Such he was in private life, that to doubt the impression of his memory on his friends, were to doubt all that is of worth in human nature. In the varying record of public recollection, the course of things must preserve the strong characters of leading events rather than the value of milder virtues; but of public judgment, the expression of the public concern during illness, has shewn that the report may justly be lasting.

"That qualities such as these should not have been permitted longer to spread their influence, or longer to be remunerated with what of enjoyment virtue has here to bestow, is but an additional cause to revere the dispensations of that law, which, though its decrees may baffle the calculation of human retribution, shall assuredly secure to integrity, and honour, and benevolence, their fixed and eternal reward.

"To perpetuate the memory of the governor, so far as the frail efforts of human care can avail a meeting of the British inhabitants was convened subsequently to his death; who passed unanimously the following resolutions.

First. Resolved, that the British inhabitants who compose this meeting, being fully sensible of the blessings which they, with the other inhabitants of the island, enjoyed during the period the late Honorable Charles Andrew Bruce was at the head of this government; whose conduct was marked by honor and integrity towards his honorable employers, zeal and solicitude for the general welfare and interests of the island; and by justice, benevolence, hospitality, and a suavity of manner to all:—and desirous of bearing testimony to his worth and merit by some tribute of public approbation, calculated to perpetuate the same to posterity, do therefore propose to erect a mausoleum over the grave, in which his body was interred, with an appropriate inscription, stating by whom, and on what account it had been erected.

Second. Resolved, that a subscription be immediately opened for the purpose of defraying the expence of erecting the said building.

Third. Resolved, that five persons with the chairman, be selected from the present meeting, to act as a committee for carrying the first resolution into effect, who for that purpose will be authorised to receive such sums as may be subscribed.

Fourth. Resolved, that the said committee shall, with all convenient dispatch, fix upon a plan of the building intended to be erected, and also to draw out an appropriate inscription for a stone to be placed thereon, for the purpose of being submitted for the approval of the subscribers at a future period.

Fifth. Resolved, that a copy of these resolutions, accompanied by a respectful letter of condolence, to be signed by the committee, be transmitted to the Honorable Mrs. Bruce, by the first convenient opportunity, and that the committee, when chosen, be directed to retire and prepare a suitable letter for that purpose, to be submitted to this meeting for approval.

Memoirs of Joseph Emin, *an Armenian.**

They who have been wont to contemplate the even tenour of the lives, usually passed by the individuals of his nation, will have something to admire in the busy and uncommon scenes, in which the enterprising subject of this memoir, was a distinguished but not a fortunate actor; unless it shall be considered a species of good fortune, that he acquired the friendship of the good and the patronage of the great; but which, however they might have gratified his heart, do not appear in any noticeable degree to have improved his fortunes; but this, perhaps, might have been owing more to a proud and unyielding spirit on his own part, and which we would rather

* The following *sketch* of the life of *Emin* is taken from a Bengal Print, (the *Mirror*) to which on this, and numerous other occasions, the Editor is much indebted.

believe from the illustrious names that befriended him, than the neglect or indifference of his patrons.

Joseph Emin was an Armenian gentleman, upwards of 40 years a brevet ensign in the service of the Hon. East India Company; a singular and extraordinary character, of an ardent and aspiring genius, whose life abounded with materials for a valuable and curious memoir, and who, had circumstances concurred with his patriotic views, would have shone upon the world as the restorer of the freedom of his country. He was the only Armenian, who, to use his own words, "out of several thousands, and in thousands of years, has displayed an ardent and inextinguishable thirst for improvement and liberty."

On the death of so extraordinary an individual, who lived for many years, and till his decease, in the capital of British India, it falls peculiarly within the province of a local publication, to present to its readers some sketch, however short and imperfect, of his active career.

Mr. Emin, an Armenian by ancestry, and by his religion, descended from noble blood, was born at Hamadan, in Persia, in the year 1726. His ancestors, who were zealously attached to the honour and independence of their country, quitted Armenia on its being reduced under the Ottoman yoke by Shah Abbas, and sought an asylum at Hamadan, near the foot of Mount Alwend, in Persia. Hamadan being conquered, and brought under the Ottoman subjection, the family of Emin, about the year 1732, removed from thence for India, and on their way stopped some time at Bussora, and Joseph Emin, the subject of our present notice, then a boy of seven or eight years of age, was in that city, when it was besieged by Thamaz Kouli Khan, better known by the title of Nadir Shah.

The father of Emin passing from Bussora into India, came on to Bengal, bringing with him a part of his family, and with them his son Joseph, whom, on his arrival in Calcutta, it became his first care to place at an English school, that he might be instructed in the rudiments of that tongue. Emin, descended, as above stated, from an ancient and illustrious family of Armenia, was fired, even in his boyish days, with the ambition of rendering himself the instrument of rescuing his country from slavery; and with that intention, he formed the resolution of making himself a proficient in the military tactics of Europe; and then to proceed to Armenia, to place himself at the head of his countrymen, to assert their independence, and to urge them to free themselves from the oppression of the Turks. It was some considerable time before he could carry the first steps of his plan into execution; a principal difficulty occurred in finding his way to Europe. After many fruitless attempts to work his passage to England, he obtained a birth on board the Walpole Indiaman, captain Fea, in the year 1749. He shipped himself as boatswain's boy. On his arrival in London he found himself without friends and without money.—During his first years, he underwent many hardships, and was compelled to engage in various laborious occupations, to obtain his daily bread; and for some time he actually plied the streets of London as a common porter. These discouraging circumstances, which would have damped the ardour of a less zealous enthusiast, served only to fan the latent spark of patriotism in the breast of young Emin— he determined to persevere and to surmount every difficulty. Accident, at length, brought him under the notice of the duke of Northumberland, who warmly patronized him, and introduced him to his royal highness the duke of Cumberland, who, finding Emin a youth of genius and enteprize, sent him to Woolwich academy, to study mathematics, gunnery, fortification, and other branches of military science. Some time afterwards, he accompanied his royal highness to the continent, and served in several campaigns under prince Ferdinand. After the termination of the German wars, he went to Russia, and obtaining letters of recommendation from the court of

St. Petersburgh, he joined Heraclius, prince of Georgia, where he anxiously sought to carry into effect the plan of liberating his country, the ruling passion of his soul, and which gave energy to his character and to all his actions. Unfortunately, the independence of his spirit, and his dislike to the servility of courts, ill accorded with the temper of Heraclius, from whose service he was obliged to withdraw. After various perilous adventures in Persia, Armenia, Georgia, Circassia, Taurida, &c. he found his degenerate countrymen unworthy of the freedom to which he hoped to restore them, and as his means were wholly inadequate to the attainment of his favourite object, he returned to India, and arrived in Calcutta, in 1768, when Mr. Cartier, then governor of Bengal, in admiration of his character, gave him a commission of brevet ensign, in the company's service, which he held till his death.

Having served with reputation in two campaigns against the native powers, and peace being re-established, he obtained leave of absence from Mr. Hastings. As the deliverance of his country, still held the first place in his mind, he lost no time in revisiting Georgia; but this expedition proved as unsuccessful as the former; and in this second attempt he narrowly escaped falling a victim to the treachery and vindictive disposition of the reigning king of Persia. He found the temper of the people, and the state of public affairs, so unfavourable to the prosecution of his grand design, that he retired for the present, trusting that an opportunity favourable to his schemes would present, and, settling at Sherauz, there married, and had four children. He remained some years at Sherauz; but, seeing no prospect of his views in Armenia being brought to bear, he returned to Bengal, leaving his family in Persia, excepting his eldest son Ashruk, whom he brought with him to Calcutta, where he arrived in 1784.

On coming to Bengal he found some difficulty in regaining his former rank in the army, as his patron, Mr. Hastings, had quitted the government, and embarked for England. But sir Robert Sloper coming out about that time as commander-in-chief, and colonel Pearce being then commandant of Fort William, to both of whom he had been well known in England, he not only obtained, through their interference, his re-establishment in rank, but also the amount of arrears of pay and batta, arising during his long absence. From that time till the day of his death, he continued in Calcutta, living in ease and humble independence on the pension of his rank.

He published in 1784 a narrative of his life and adventures, which is still extant, and in which, with much vivacity and humour, he relates his extraordinary exploits, comprizing a singular and interesting series of adventures, which shew in strong colours, the intrepidity and constancy of his mind; and prove him to have possessed a high and independent spirit, and which occasionally appears to have stood in the way of his better fortune—in his intercourse with mankind, and during a long life, it may truly be said of him, in the words of Shakespeare, that he was—" More sinned against, than sinning."

If *laudari a viro laudato* be a test of worth, Emin will be allowed his full share, when it is told that he was not only patronized, but honoured with the commendation and friendship of the good and the great sir Wm. Jones. Soon after his arrival in Bengal, as a judge of the supreme court of judicature, sir William became acquainted with Emin, with whose manly and independent character he was highly delighted. He used to enjoy his eccentricities, which were all the growth of the nobler passions. It was at the express desire and solicitation of Sir William that he undertook to publish his memoirs; and we shall close this account with the following excellent letter from sir William to ensign Emin. We think it will be highly acceptable to those of our readers who have not already met with it, and they to whom it is known will probably thank us for the re-perusal:—

"My Dear Emin,—I send back the last number of your narrative with my very hearty thanks for the pleasure which the whole work has given me; it has been highly interesting to me: but, as there is no reasoning on tastes, I cannot be sure that it will be thought equally interesting by others; the style remains wholly your own; for I have corrected only those errors in language and orthography, which were unavoidable in an English work written by a native of Hamadan; and it is not the least of your merits that you have acquired such a command of words, in a language so different from Persian or Armenian. I know mankind too well to be surprized at the failure of your enterprize: nor am I fully persuaded that it was just, since Heraclius had a claim on Armenia; unless you intended to establish a republican government, and could have been satisfied with the station of a private citizen. A pure democracy is the only natural form of government, it cannot, indeed, be of long duration, because the lazy (who are the majority of every estate) must continue poor and weak, while the few who are diligent grow wealthy and powerful, and the only use of a king is to keep down the pride and imperiousness of the few. A mixed government, therefore, like that of England, is the only form approaching to a state of natural society, and likely to be permanent; if your design was to transplant our constitution to Armenia, I heartily lament your disappointment, though I cannot wonder at it. Such a project I should think extremely laudable; and you must think it so yourself, or you would not have undertaken it, but, since men are never so sure of loosing their just applause, as when they claim it, let me exhort you when you revise your work, to strike out every passage that may savour of self-approbation. Let me also advise you to discard for ever the Asiatic style of panegyric, to which you are too much addicted; weak minds only are tickled with praise, while they, who deserve it, receive it with disdain. They who say or write civil things as they are called, may not be flatterers, but they certainly resemble them; as a brave man may be a real hero, but if he dress like a fop, he will be mistaken for one. I will add only one argument more; the Asiatic style, whether dedicatory or epistolary, is utterly repugnant to English manners, which you prefer, I know, to those of Persia. For all these reasons I return your dedication to Colonel Pearse uncorrected: if I know him he would not be pleased with it, and I cannot be accessary to any thing that appears even in a questionable shape. Swift has misled you by inculcating that men of wit love praise; be assured that every man of wit (unless wit and sense be at variance) must prefer plain food to sugar plumbs, and would rather be rubbed with a coarse towel than with Dacca muslin with all its flowers. Farewell, and believe me ever, my dear Emin, your faithful servant,

"W. JONES.

"Gardens, August 10, 1788."

Mr. CHARLES WESTON.

[The peculiar and singular merits of this gentleman were so eminent, and so generally acknowledged, as to entitle him to a more precise and due place in the public notice and regret than is usually asserted and secured by the common, fugitive panegyrics of the obituaries of the Indian Prints.]

Mr. Charles Weston was born *about* the 31st year of the last century; —for he could not exactly tell his age, in consequence of the Registers of the English Church of old Calcutta having been destroyed along with the Church, in the furious hurricane of the 11th and 12th October, 1737. His father,

first a merchant, then recorder of the Mayor's Court, was obliged, by the derangement of his affairs, to fly to France, where he died, and could not give much education to his son beyond the first rudiments of language. Very fortunately, however, he thought of putting him an apprentice to Mr. Holwell, then a surgeon; a circumstance which naturally contributed to enlarge his mind.

Young Weston served the whole time of his engagement, and then attached himself to his patron from inclination. He followed him once to Europe, between 1740 and 50.

Mr. Holwell's abilities having raised him from the practice of medicine to the highest ranks of the Civil Service, Mr. Weston was also induced to change his pursuits.—Besides, although he generally applied his fortune, when once acquired, more to the use of others than to his own, he seems to have been early impressed with an idea of the necessity of acquiring one; and,—"what could I expect," said he, "from following the medical "line, when I saw a regular-bred "surgeon, and so clever a man as Mr. "Holwell, charge no more in his bills "than fifty rupees for three months "medicine and attendance?" He therefore applied himself to book-keeping.

He served as a militia-man, in the Old Fort, in 1756, but, fortunately for the many necessitous whom he lived afterwards to assist, he was sent to look after Mr. Holwell's baggage-boats the day before the fort surrendered. Had it been otherwise, it is not probable, that his rather weak frame could have resisted the hardships of the black hole.

Mr. Weston, after that sad event, hastened to Chinsurah, where he had sent his wife and children. A Mr. Finley, an Irish gentleman, settled at Chandernagore in a house on the other side of the burying-ground, saw him running bare-footed; and, having informed himself of his situation, took care of him until the return of Mr. Holwell from Moorshedabad.

This circumstance is worth mentioning, because Mr. Weston's often relating it gives some reason to suppose, that the kindness which he thus experienced in his youth, and at so proper a time, from a mere stranger, made a deep impression on him, and served to develope that love towards all his fellow-creatures, for which he became afterwards so conspicuous.

Mr. Weston often affirmed that the subsequent release of Mr. Holwell from fetters and imprisonment was owing to the intercession of the Nabob's wives, instigated by the natives of Calcutta, with whom Mr. Holwell had made himself extremely popular, by the manner in which he had discharged the functions of the Zemindaree.

At the time of his leaving India, Mr. Holwell made a present to Mr. Weston of 2,000 Rs. and lent him 5,000; the slender capital of his subsequent large acquirements, and the thriving fund of his extensive charities. Mr. Weston but seldom ventured upon commercial speculation, but made his fortune in the business of agency. A gentleman now living, and who has known him these forty years, says, that at the very commencement of their acquaintance, Mr. Weston was already in the habit of granting pensions to the poor, and that he began to do so, when administrator to the estate of a Portuguese merchant, who had left a considerable sum for the same purpose. On the same authority, it is asserted that Mr. Weston used, even then, to entertain his friends regularly, once or twice a week, a custom which he followed so constantly, that, even on the day of his death, twenty-four persons had been invited to his table.

Mr. Weston saw all his four daughters, (on whom he had, at their marriage, bestowed most liberal settlements,) perish in the prime of life. His only son, who survives him, lost his mental faculties, a little time after his return from Europe, where nothing had been spared for his education. And his wife has also preceded him to the grave. Mr. Weston met these misfortunes with fortitude.

He laboured at one period of his

life, for seven years, under an asthmatic complaint, of which he was cured by the use of Ipeca, and by removing to the country, where he passed the thirty last years of his life. About 1782, he retired from business; and never afterwards was once tempted to add any thing to his fortune, even by the simple accumulation of interest; but devoted the remainder of his life to social enjoyments, and to the relief of the poor.

His manner of disposing of his riches was invariably thus. The profits of the Tiretta bazar he applied to his own expences. The rest of his fortune had been invested in Company's paper, and of that the whole interest was distributed in monthly allowances to the indigent of all nations, classes, and religions, without distinction.

Mr. Holwell found himself reduced, in old age, to apply to his pupil's friendship and generosity; and Mr. Weston tendered him, for the last twelve years of his life, the assistance which that great man had so well deserved from his country. This fact, which would not have disgraced the account given of Mr. Holwell in the Asiatic Register of 98-9, is now mentioned almost for the first time.

Although he was a kind friend, and was fond of rendering little services to all his acquaintances, he confined his bounty to the necessitous only; and in order to be less deceived on that score, he had made to himself a rule, from which he seldom deviated, not to grant pensions of above 30 Rs. per month.

His last illness began in September; and he passed through the painful stages of it with unshaken resignation. So far back as October, he had separated himself from all kinds of business, and kept himself in readiness for his final departure. He left a lac of rupees by will, as a fund for the poor; but, unlike so many who never think of parting with any part of their money but at their death, his last and easiest act of charity falls much short of those which he performed when alive.

Humanity, mildness, patience, cheerfulness, candour, activity, sense, and firmness (partaking at times of inflexibility,) made up his character; which was as consistent as any hitherto known. Exposed often to importunity and artifice, he knew how to resist the one and to see through and defeat the other. Although his stock of information was more derived from business than from any other source, he possessed, in a high degree, the art of conversation; and his manners, though unadorned by early education, had received from his excellent understanding and heart, a polish which fitted him for the best circles. His eccentric simplicity, management of his health, skill and temper in diversifying his pleasures, would have done honour to a philosopher. In short, his address must have been uncommon, who, though possessed of every thing that is envied, could spin out a life of 78 years, without creating a single enemy, and could be at once expensive, rich, and happy;—such a long course of worldly experience never inducing him to restrain his inexhaustible benevolence.

It was difficult to live within the sphere of this man, without sooner or later benefiting by it. There is not the least doubt of this simple tale meeting with the assent of the many who knew him; and it may be repeated by some in a manner more worthy of the subject. The propriety of our admiration for the brilliant achievements of Warriors and Statesmen is still problematical with the thinking part of mankind; but, all men will concur in the praise of a man, who walked in the private paths of life, to the advantage of numbers, to the annoyance of none; and who, in the particular mode of conduct he adopted, has left an example which he had received from no one, nd which it must be the wish of society at large to see imitated.

MR. JOHN ANDREWS.

[THIS extraordinary character could not be placed in a more striking opposition, than in contrast with the last. The one is exhibited as an incentive to imitation, the other as an object to be shunned. Each may act, though in a different way, equally beneficial to the navigator in the wide and perilous ocean of life; either as a sea-mark to guide him in safety to the haven of his hope, or a beacon to warn him against the danger of the sunken and treacherous shoal.]

Mr. J. Andrews, who lately died at his villa at Russapuglah, near Calcutta, was a gentleman, though unadorned with the accomplishments of nature or art, though somewhat rugged both in the interior and exterior man, though claiming no eulogium for those virtues, that commonly make the principal figure in posthumous commemoration, yet demanding a short notice, that may be made perhaps, usefully to supply somewhat more than the mere record of the date of his exit from the drama of life. In contemplating his worldly career, we may discern the good effects of industry, perseverance, and economy, on the one hand; and, on the other, the vanity of riches, and the folly of their accumulation.

Mr. Andrews went to Calcutta, nearly half a century ago, in the humble character of a recruit for the honourable company's army. His education had been so much neglected, that he could barely read or write his native tongue; but stimulated by the laudable desire of improvement, he applied himself to the study of English, and made a competent proficiency in that language. He acquired in this way, an early habit of reading, which was the chief source of his amusement through life, and continued till the day of his death. After the period of his military service, he received his discharge;—having obtained the approbation of his superior officers, and recommended himself to notice, by strict sobriety, fidelity, and attention to his duties, he found no difficulty in obtaining such pecuniary aid, as, added to the amount of his own savings, enabled him to commence bookseller, and to set on foot a circulating library, the first institution of that kind established to the eastward of the Cape of Good Hope. He discharged the duties of his new vocation with credit and advantage to himself, and with general satisfaction to his subscribers and customers.

By close attention to business, and by rigid economy, he found himself, in the course of a few years, possessed of a competency, upon which, about the year 1789 he retired from business; determined to pass the residue of his days in ease and domestic peace. But in the acquisition of wealth he had nurtured a passion, that was to disturb with anxiety and care, the evening of his life. Instead of regarding wealth as the instrument of happiness; as the means of discharging those duties, and fulfilling those propensities, which form the only rational source of human pleasure, and which render the individual useful and respectable in society, he considered the mere possession of riches as the *summum bonum*,—as necessarily bringing with it, all that is valuable in life; and that in possession of sufficient wealth, happiness necessarily followed, thus unfortunately mistaking the means for the end.—Under this fatal delusion, to save and to accumulate engrossed his whole attention; and this propensity, like all others, gained daily force by habitual indulgence;—to part with money, however small the sum, was viewed as the most painful of all contingencies;—the discharge of his pecuniary engagements was a work of direful distress; and never performed when it could be conveniently avoided; he would readily consent to allow interest on the claims of a creditor, merely to protract the day that was to take but a mite from his useless hoard; and the necessity of defraying his current expences, tended to embitter his peace of mind, in proportion as it interfered with his darling scheme of accumula-

tion; from the same cause, the performance of those duties to his family and relations, that required the expenditure of money, were deferred or neglected.

Mr. Andrews, like most other men, who makes the possession of wealth the mean of their own unhappiness, beguiled himself with the monstrous belief that the day would yet come, when he should enter upon the rational enjoyment of his wealth, when he should find fit occasion to dilate in the exercise of liberality, and to give a scope to a generous feeling. But he expected what, in the nature of things, was impossible;—to him, such an occasion could never arrive: the man who is haunted with the fear of doing good too soon, must necessarily be shut out from the opportunity.—But in truth, his heart had yielded to the natural effect of avarice, and had long been insensible to any other enjoyment than the morbid pleasure of hoarding. From these views we may contemplate the death of Mr. Andrews with advantage, not merely as a *memento mori*, but as conveying a lesson of practical utility, since it shews the misery inseparably connected with avarice, and the folly of husbanding up the designs of benevolence for some future and more fitting opportunities; it shews, too, the true means of attaining happiness, by doing good in the day that is before us, not trusting to future seasons, and future good intentions, which fate may put beyond our reach, or our weakly constitution, influenced by counteractive passions and impressions, may unhappily contravene.

THE PRINCESS AETOCKOE.

Some particulars of this interesting personage, and her English husband, were submitted to the reader in the last volume of the Register, from which he will have learnt that she was conveyed, by the treachery of a British captain, it is related with shame, from her father's island, (New Zealand) to Sooloo, Malacca, and subsequently to Calcutta. At the latter place she received the most kind and tender treatment from the Governor-General of India, and was admitted, on more than one occasion, to the hospitalities of his palace; and all honest arts, which a liberal policy could suggest, were used to remove from her mind the impressions of disgust it might be supposed to have received against the national character, from the unfeeling and unprincipled conduct of an individual.

It was to be hoped, that these attentions would have entirely effaced the remembrance of preceding injuries, and have changed the sentiments with which she commenced her commerce with a new community—owning the same original character with her husband, though shewing themselves, in their earliest appearances, in a most unfavourable point of view. It was to be expected that her first confidence would have been restored, and that her ultimate good report would have entirely reconciled the king and his people, to the mercantile adventurers of our country; though the advantages of commerce are always to be regarded, but as a remote consideration, when weighed against the national reputation, which distinguishes and gives not only a passport but a facility to all commercial intercourse.

It is to be lamented, not that these humane and conciliatory arts were used, which in the act of service pay themselves, but that they have unfortunately failed, from an event beyond human controul, at once disastrous to those who employed, and calamitous to the object of them. It would appear, from late accounts from New Holland, that this ill-fated personage, after having approached, almost to the threshold as it were, of her home, was cut off from the sight of her nearest friends, ardently and affectionately anticipated, and in the very instant of being en-

joyed, by sudden and rapid disease; leaving behind her a solace to her husband, and the means of peace and reconciliation with her injured father, in the first fruit of her marriage—a new born and thriving child.

The Sydney Gazette thus notices the unhappy event of her death.

"Died, on Sunday morning last, at four o'clock, at the house of Francis M'Kuan, in Sydney, a princess of New Zealand, and daughter of Tip-pahee, whose first name was Atahoe, but which at the age of 14 was changed to that of Mary Bruce, by her marriage with an European of that name, who had resided several years in her father's dominions, fromwhence he went to India in the General Wellesley, accompanied by his royal bride. From India, Mr. and Mrs. Bruce arrived lately here, in the Union, on their return to New Zealand, for the valuable purpose of collecting and cultivating the flax, to which that soil is so extremely favourable; at the same time the no less essential object was in view of improving the good understanding, that has hitherto subsisted between our whalers and the native chiefs, which may hereafter prove of considerable interest to this colony. In this intention, Mr. Bruce has been encouraged by the countenance of his excellency the governor, and the aid of several gentlemen of character and opulence, whose minds are capable of speculating on an universal, rather than on a private benefit; and that their united efforts may become successful, is most sincerely to be wished. The deceased princess has left a fine infant, which Mr. Bruce intends to take with him in the Experiment."

USEFUL PROJECTS.

Suggested Improvement in the Dispensation of the Laws among the Native Subjects of India.

[The following paper is the subject of a note in COLONEL WILKES'S *Historical Sketches of the South of India*, a brief account of which will be found, under the appropriate head, in the present volume of the Register.—The general reader will collect, even from these detached and desultory remarks, much knowledge of the native character, and the spirit of the native law, and some useful information of the effect of the judicial system now acted on in India, and of its apparent incompetency to its end; and will, moreover, receive many valuable hints, founded on great experience, and due and grave consideration, for the amendment of the course of administering the peculiar laws of the natives.—The *Editor* has the same respect with the author for the Hindoo Code, and the same abhorrence of an affected profession of regarding it, while a practice is observed directly repugnant with the principle of such profession; and if he differ in any thing, it is in that he considers it open to the legislative authority, as applicable to India, to supply what is deficient in the Hindoo Laws, from the progressive state of society; or in the forms that may be requisite, from practical inconvenience discovered in the exercise of them, to give full effect to their provisions. But in no instance would he interfere with the laws, where they are efficient and mandatory; or with the practice where it is definite and operative: he would not touch with a profane hand any part of institutions, which are regarded as of sacred and divine origin.]

OF the actual system for the administration of justice to the native subjects of British India, I wish to speak with respect, because it originated and has been continued in the purest intentions. On the political question I presume to risk but one short observation. It is impossible to separate the political tendency of laws from the genius of the government from which they emanate. The spirit of the English constitution assigns to the mass of the people an extensive controul over the exercise of public authority; and deems the executive government to be the representative of the public will. This spirit pervades the whole body of its laws; these laws necessarily reflect back, and re-produce the principles from which they spring: and it is matter for grave reflection, that if this species of re-action should ever be produced in India, from that moment it is lost to this country for ever. The efficient protection of our native subjects in all the rights which they themselves consider to be essential to their happiness, is certainly the most sacred and imperious of all our duties; and it is on this express ground that our present regulations, considered as a system of jurisprudence for the south of India, appear to me to require a radical reform.

To apply the *criminal law of Arabia*, the most defective on earth, and the least capable of correction, to the Hindoo subjects of Great Britain, under the government of Fort St. George, is just not quite so absurd as to import the criminal law of Japan. If it were even admitted that the principles of the *Koran* are more susceptible of improvement than the law of the Hindoos, the absurdity would still remain of governing that people by a *foreign bad code*, when we may with equal facility govern them by a *foreign good code*; namely, the English law, which, even in point of prescription,* had a

* The first establishments of the English on the eastern coast of the peninsula were at

local existence before the scourge of Mohammedan conquest, and Mohammedan law, had yet reached the plains of Coromandel.

In the *civil code* we profess to administer justice according to the laws of the parties. This subject requires a more ample discussion than can be given in the compass of a note. The essential nature and objects of justice are every where uniform: the end is the same, the means are various. The principles of law in different countries do not materially vary; particular laws or regulations consist less in declaring principles, than in applying them to existing customs, and not unfrequently in a bare enunciation of the forms of legal proceeding. With a people like the Hindoos, among whom religion, and law, and the forms of legal proceeding, are all of equal sanctity, and considered to have the same divine origin, the substitution of the forms of Westminster Hall for the forms prescribed in their sacred codes, or rendered equally venerable by immemorial usages, if not a subversion of an important part of their legal system, is at least a violation of customs which we profess to respect. Principles in all countries are understoood by a number sufficiently small; forms by every one, and if we can condescend to govern the Hindoos by their own forms, we may (I do not affirm that we ought) correct the principles of their law, without its being generally observed or opposed. But holding in constant recollection the character of the people to be governed, it is incontestible that we may introduce Mohammedan or English law, both, or either, directly, or covertly, without the most distant chance of any influence, immediate or remote, in meliorating the morals of the people, or changing their opinions, in any other way than that of producing disgust at our rule.

Exclusively of forms, I fear that some fundamental errors of principle have been committed. Imprisonment for debts, for example, which is considered by all philosophical reasoners as one of the most defective institutions of European jurisprudence, is unknown to the ancient codes, or the common law of the south of India, and is repugnant to all the habits which so peculiarly separate that race from the rest of mankind. But this terrible and most offensive innovation has been introduced into the English civil code, which professes to govern the Hindoos by their own laws. The distinction of casts which is absolutely the key-stone of Hindoo law has unfortunately either not been recognized at all in our laws and regulations, or indirectly treated with contempt; thus insulting the higher, without gratifying the lower classes; and, added to the novelty of our forms, exciting in both the apprehension of farther change. It would be absurd and unjust to impute to the authors of this system the intention of proselytism; and it can only be lamented, that it has contributed, among other causes, to produce the belief of such an intention. But if, as some publications† give reason to believe, such views have really been entertained by other persons, it will be incumbent on sober thinkers seriously to consider that, exclusively of the excess of visionary folly, it is a most unmanly, ungenerous, and unchristian deception, to veil this object under the pretext of respecting the civil and religious customs and prejudices of the people; for all their prejudices, all their opinions, and all their customs, from the most trifling to the most important, are absolutely incorporated with their religion, and ought all to be held sacred.

The founder of a philosophical Utopia would certainly reject with abhorrence a system which tends to enslave the human mind, and to entail hereditary degradation on a large portion of its citizens. But we are not here dis-

Masulipatam and Armagon; the latter was founded in 1726. The first grant from Sree Rung Rayee of territory at Madras is dated in 1639. The first invasion of the territory now improperly named the Carnatic, by the Mohammedan forces, of Yeyapoor and Golconda, occurred in 1646.

† The reader who may desire farther information regarding these views, will find them described and discussed in the Edinburgh Review, vol. xii. p. 151.

cussing a speculative theory. The objects in our contemplation are not metaphysical entities to be moulded into ideal forms; but human beings, already fixed in stubborn and immoveable prejudices, to which any system founded in wisdom and humanity must necessarily conform. It is not the question, it never can be a question, whether the English or Hindoo code of religion and jurisprudence be entitled to the preference; but whether the Hindoo law and religion, for they are one and the same, are, or are not, to be maintained, or whether we are at liberty to invade both. If we profess to govern the Hindoos by their own laws, let us not falsify that profession by tearing them up by the roots on the pretence of pruning and amending them. They are no longer Hindoo if they are subject to innovation. Before quitting this branch of the subject, it may be useful (for the sake of illustration) to examine the reasonableness of interfering with the most exceptionable of all their institutions. It has been thought an abomination not to be tolerated, that a widow should immolate herself on the funeral pile of her deceased husband. But what judgment should we pronounce on the Hindoo, who (if any of our institutions admited the parallel) should *forcibly* pretend to stand between a Christian and the hope of eternal salvation? And shall we not hold him to be a driveller in politics and morals, a fanatic in religion, and a pretender in humanity, who should forcibly wrest this hope from the Hindoo widow? To return to the question of cast. To equalize them is impossible; to attempt it, offensive beyond all endurance to those whom we would exalt, as well as to those whom we would debase; and if we possessed the power, to exercise it would be a gross and intolerable oppression. That our regulations, where they do extend, and where they have not yet reached, are considered with terror as the instruments of a foreign rule, and that the Hindoos neither do nor can feel that they are governed by their own laws, seems to have been distinctly foreseen by the able and learned officer* who aided in the first compilation of the judicial regulations of Fort St. George. In a preliminary report he deprecates the idea of sudden innovation, and observes, "that the system ought rather to grow out of the first germ, than start at once, full grown, like Minerva from the head of Jupiter, shaking a lance and ægis at the astonished native. They will rise gradually, as the best laws have done, out of the manners and habits of the people, meliorating and reflecting back the principles they have derived from them."

In framing a new and full grown system (since, however, exceedingly enlarged), the excellent and able men who were employed naturally referred to the system of jurisprudence which we are all habituated to revere, for their rules, their forms, and modes of proceeding, down in many instances to the very technical terms. Fixed judges and magistrates have been established, and courts of appeal, of circuit, and gaol delivery, with all their English appendages; and a superior Hindoo court, with a Perso-Arabic title, administered by Englishmen; and it has already become a difficult study to be able to understand the voluminous code which has been framed. Of all this I should wish to speak with reverence; but really an enormous amount of technical labour; and skill, and expence, and the application of most respectable talents, terminates in performing the proposed operation very ill, or not at all: the component parts are clogged by their own complexity and misapplication, the machinery of an Arnold's chronometer has been applied to perform the work of a smoke jack.

If Anglo-Indian legislatures would throw off a little of that which they somewhat too largely ascribe to the natives of India, namely the prejudice of education, they would find the rules of proceeding prescribed by the Hindoo code, (with all its numerous

* The Judge Advocate General, Major Leith.

imperfections on its head), combined with the local customs, or common law of India, not ill adapted to the state of society, to which it is intended to apply; and in the *Panchaiet* or *Indian Jury*,* which is (or rather was) universally established in the south as the common law of the land, an admirable instrument of practical decision. The Hindoo character, like all others, is of a mixed nature, but it is composed of strange and contradictory elements. The man who may be safely trusted for uniformly unfolding the whole truth to an European, in whom he reposes confidence, may be expected to equivocate, and even to contradict every word he has said, if called on to repeat it in presence of a third person whom he either fears or suspects; and in one of these descriptions he usually includes all strangers. The same description of a man, sometimes the same individual, who from pique, and often without any intelligible motive, will perjure† himself without shame or compunction at a public trial, is faithful, kind, and respectable in the intercourse of society; and the single but notorious fact of habitual lending and borrowing of money and effects, among the husbandmen, without bond, or note, or witness, abundantly proves, that this people, apparently so destitute of morals in one view of their character, are in another habitually honest and true in their dealings; that they mutually trust and deserve to be trusted. The more intimately they are known, the more favourable is the judgment of every good and humane European on the character of this interesting people; but fully to understand them, requires to have lived and been educated among them, as one of themselves; and I conscientiously believe, that for the purpose of discriminating the motives of action, and the chances of truth, in the evidence of such a people, the mature life of the most acute and able European judge, devoted to that single object, would not place him on a level with an intelligent Hindoo Panchayet.

To govern Hindoos in reality, and not in pretence, by their own laws and customs, civil and criminal, would admit of extensive aid in judges and juries (panchayets)‡ from among the natives themselves, checked without material danger of corruption, by a reduced scale of European controul. The new establishments of police, on which large sums have been unnecessarily expended, might be entirely retrenched by putting in activity the admirable institution of village officers, and directing, instead of attempting to destroy, this excellent instrument of police: of which I speak, not from vague tradition of what it has been, but from a close observation of what it is. If theory required that the judicial functions should be rendered distinct from the fiscal, it seemed equally to demand the separation of the duties of magistrate and judge, which have been united in the new system with the most obvious practical inconvenience. There may have been a real propriety in preventing the fiscal officer from being judge in a contested case of fiscal demand, (although we do not see this propriety practically acknowledged in England) but beyond this there seems to have been little necessity for the cumbrous establishments to which we have adverted.

These suggestions, however imperfect,

* An institution so entirely neglected or misunderstood, that I believe its existence is now, for the first time, presented to the notice of the English public.

† The branch of Hindoo law which refers to this object is dreadfully objectionable, but the practical rules of evidence are calculated to correct it. I feel that the reproach of English prejudice applies in a certain degree to some of my observations on this subject in 1804: and I regret having made them at all, because they have been misapprehended; and I have been quoted, and in courts of law, for what I have not written.

‡ This word implies, that the *commissioners*, or, as is here denominated, the *jury*, are *five* in number. They are chosen, as in England, with regard to neighbourhood, and other circumstances serving to make them competent and impartial judges of the subject matter in dispute, and of the parties engaged in it. The institution has no other defect, than what might with equal justice be charged against an English jury.

are not the result of loose or solitary remarks, but the consequence of deliberate discussion, with some of the most able and efficient instruments of the present system, of a careful and vigilant observation of the conduct and practical operation of a Hindoo court, which has been established within the last five years at Mysoor; and of a coincidence with the mature judgment of regular English lawyers, free from the trammels of their profession. The names of some of these, if I were at liberty to adduce them, would give irresistible weight to the opinions which I have attempted to sketch.

NEHUR BEHEISHT; or, *Canal of Paradise.*

THE laudable anxiety of the supreme Government to promote the welfare of the extensive and populous provinces committed to their charge, has been attracted to the restoration of the celebrated canal of Ali Merdan Khan, which in former times was wont to diffuse salubrity and plenty, over the wide (and now desolate) tract which extends from Delhi to Pannipут. The workmen have already begun to excavate the earth and other rubbish, which for near a century past, have shut out from this canal the waters of the Jumna. The reader will perhaps be better able to appreciate the importance of this noble undertaking, whether with respect to its probable influence on the prosperity of the adjacent countries, or on the revenue of the state, when he shall have perused the following account written, in 1776, of the original work, and of the consequences which followed its decay.

"What gave the greatest lustre and splendour to the new city, was the successful attempt of Ally Merdan Khan, a Persian Omrah (the same who delivered Candahar into Shah Jehan's hands,) who undertook to bring a canal of fresh water, to run through the principal streets and parts of the town, by a cut made from the Jumna itself, at a place called Mogulpore (about 60 coss from Delhi,) where the river is very rapid, and has several falls; and this, by a proper management, he soon effected. Though the work was not done with that elegance and solidity for which the ancient and some of our modern aqueducts are so famous, yet it was not the less useful; and it may be easily conceived, what pleasure, in such a climate as this, and in a place too where there is not a portable well, the sight of a canal of excellent water must afford, running through every principal street of the town, and through the gardens and houses of the Omrahs and chief inhabitants. The work was mostly done with earth, and therefore required constant attendance and repair; but the advantage of having such an immense body of water at command, through so long a course as 120 miles of country, amply compensated for every expense, and, besides, put yearly a considerable sum in the pocket of the Omrah who had the superintendance of it. The last of any note who enjoyed that post was Sufder Jung, father of the late Shujah ul Dowlah; and, it is asserted, he cleared annually 25 lacs of rupees by it; which is not to be wondered at;—the country through which it runs being mostly low, and the canal elevated above it, advantage was made of that circumstance to fertilize and water the adjacent parts, by only opening small cuts in different places, and for a time only. This condescension of the Darogah was well paid for, and the produce of the land, amply made up the extraordinary expence to the farmer and zemindar, who had in the neighbouring capital a certain market for as much grain or fruits as they could raise. This rendered that part of the Soubah of Delhi highly flourishing: so much so, that many towns, which at present do not bring in 2000 rupees of revenue, afforded, at that time, without the smallest difficulty, a lac of rupees or more yearly. After the rebellion of Sufder Jung, the canal soon went to

ruin: and the troubles and confusion that followed, prevented the necessary attentions being paid to so useful a work. It dried up, and of course the the revenue and emoluments along with it. About 15 years ago, an attempt was made, by order of Ahmed Shah Duranee, to repair the canal, which, at the expense of a lac of rupees, succeeded, and the water came to the gates of Delhi: but the succeeding troubles, and the war with the Mahrattas, engaged too much of Abdallah's attention, to permit him to think any more of the matter; and the canal dried again: nor has any attempt been made since, though the thing is very practicable, and might be done at a small expence."

ENGLISH SPICE PLANTATIONS.

The English spice plantations, established on the island of Sumatra, and which are now to be regarded as objects of national importance, claiming particular attention, at this time, as upon the system now laid down, and the measures pursued in their general plan, cultivation, and management, depends the question, whether Great Britain shall enjoy a secure possession, or a precarious participation in one of the most valuable branches of Asiatic commerce.

The accounts from Bencoolen, reaching to the end of February, 1810, state that the clove and nutmeg trees continue to prosper; nd that the rains which had recently fallen, proved beneficial to the plantations as well as the nurseries. The whole stock of nutmeg trees in the territory, attached to the residency of Bencoolen, amounts to about 45,000. Although this number be contemptible, when compared with the extensive plantations of the Dutch, they present a satisfactory prospect of future advantage to the British nation, if the cultivation be adequately encouraged.

Of the above number of nutmeg trees, at Bencoolen, the honourable company possess between 3 and 4000, the Malays have about four thousand—the remainder are the property of European planters. The natives cannot be depended upon as cultivators. Were their trees within one district, a single village of Malays might manage the whole; but as it is, no increase is to be expected from them; on the contrary, a reduction is rather to be apprehended.

By some of the accounts that have been transmitted, the future advantages expected from this field of industry, appear to be highly estimated. The planters in their golden dreams, appear not to have duly considered that a large proportion of the trees are unproductive. According to the experience of an intelligent correspondent, two thirds of the trees at least, are barren; and as the fact, whether they will continue barren, cannot be discovered till the twelfth or fourteenth year; they cannot be cut down at an earlier age, without the danger of destroying a fruitful tree. In order therefore, to secure the succession of 45,000 fruit-bearing trees, 135,000 require to be planted and nursed, for 12 or 14 years.

Unfortunately, the calculating cultivators, who employ the pen more than the hoe; and who, lost or giddy in the contemplation of the immense wealth, apparently but a short distance from their grasp, forgot, that although the tree in the language of Botany, is termed perennial, its fruit-bearing quality is of short duration, for it will only yield well, from the 12th to the 20th year; and generally perishes at the age of 24 years. And hence, to secure a succession of 45,000 fruit-bearing trees, when the first crop of 135,000, is 8 years old, 135,000 more must be planted at that time; and this operation must be repeated every 8th year, or there will be an end of the nutmeg plantations; they will die a natural death. The Dutch, who seldom introduced arithmetic into the management of their plantations, avoided the necessity of this octennial operation,—they planted tens of thousands every year.

With respect to the probable pro-

duce of nutmegs, let us allow to 45,000 bearing trees, ten pounds each, every year, the sum of their annual produce will be 450,000 pounds, during the series of 8 years, that they are in full bearing; one-third of that quantity must be deducted, on account of theft by servants, unripe or blighted fruit, and loss in various ways. There will then remain 300,000lbs. which is about the quantity that the Dutch used to dispose of, annually at their sales, not for the consumption of Europe, but of that part of the population of Europe, which could afford to pay from fourpence to ninepence for a single nutmeg.

In like manner, the English East India company, sold in one year, in two divisions, seventy two thousand and forty seven pounds of nutmegs, most of which were, no doubt, consumed in England, yet no one will pretend to consider that, as the consumption of the British Empire, it was only of that part of its population that could afford to use nutmegs, at the extravagant price of 6 pence or 8 pence each; and if that retail price were doubled, the above quantity would supply all Europe; if trebled, it would be sufficient for the whole world. Experience has long since proved, that the consumption of all articles of luxury and domestic use, is regulated by its price.

Unless far greater plantations than are yet in progress be established, it is not possible that the demand for the British Empire only, can be supplied from Bencoolen. If the consumer is to pay the same high price as formerly, of what benefit to the people at large, is the introduction of those plants to a British settlement? If the English farmer must continue to pay six pence or eight pence for a nutmeg, it is a matter of total indifference to him, whether it be the produce of Bencoolen or Banda, or Nova Zembla. Increase your cultivation, so as materially to reduce the price, and all the benefit to be expected from the extinction of the monopoly will be obtained; then millions will find a luxury brought within their reach, from which hitherto they have been shut out. Are any of those calculators prepared to say, what would be the extent of consumption of nutmegs in the British Empire, could they be procured at a penny or two-pence each, instead of the high price occasioned by the monopoly of the Dutch, which precluded from a comfort the very class of people who wanted it most? It is difficult, if not impossible, to calculate the increase of consumption that would arise from such a reduction in the price.

Some years ago, when the monopolies of pepper were destroyed, by the introduction of ten thousand tons additional annual produce of that article, amounting in all to eighteen millions of pounds; even that enormous quantity was not found to be too great. Its use became more general, in proportion to the reduction in its price;—it fell like a shower on all mankind, and millions of families, who had never before known the taste of pepper, were enabled to indulge in its use. The same thing may be done with the nutmeg and the clove; not indeed, with the pen, but with the spade; not by calculating, but by digging the ground, and planting and rearing the trees; in this way one acre of ground at Bencoolen, will become of more value than an hundred acres in Bengal.

The Dutch, at this moment, have above a million of nutmeg and clove-trees. The English may have as many if they will take the trouble to raise them; and for the due care even of that number, not more cultivators would be required, than have been employed for many years, in raising a thousand tons of pepper.

There is now an end of all monopoly in the growth and trade of spices: beside the British at Bencoolen, various independent tribes are planting them, and trading in their produce. But if in the hands of the English, this branch of cultivation shall be followed up with zeal, intelligence, and liberal encouragement, the produce may be so increased, that while it becomes doubly advantageous, it will at the same time effectually avert the danger of competition, and effect the permanent transfer of an increasing source of wealth to Great Britain. This however will

depend on the policy pursued by the different states that may become rivals in the trade. Yet it is satisfactory to know that the advantages at present possessed, by the English, are such, that if rightly employed, they will defeat every attempt at immediate or future competition.

ARTS AND MANUFACTURES, &c. &c.

To Messrs. Gammidge and Saunders, at Fulta, near Calcutta.

GENTLEMEN,

We have great pleasure in sending you the enclosed testimony to the good quality and condition of the contents of a cask of beef cured by you, and which had been *six years* in Bombay.

The gentlemen who did Mr. Forbes the favour of examining them, were requested to testify, in writing, the opinion they unanimously expressed, as an act of justice to you, and of service to the public.

We have on these grounds, made the circumstances generally known here, and you are at liberty to make whatever use you please of the certificate in Calcutta.

We are, gentlemen,
Your obedient servants,
FORBES and Co.

We the undersigned, were present when a cask of Bengal beef was opened at Mr. Forbes's house, marked G. and S. Briskets and Humps, C. Forbes, No 1.—The cask, Mr. Forbes declared, had been in his possession for the long period of six years, having been sent round to him, by Mr. Colin Robertson of Calcutta, per ship Upton Castle, captain Pavin; the meat was in excellent pickle, and in the highest state of preservation, without the least taint: a piece of the meat was boiled and tasted by us, and had we not been informed to the contrary, we should have conceived it at the latest to have been of the last year's curing.

GEORGE DUNDAS,
Commr. H. M. navy.
W. T. MONEY,
Supt. of the H. C. marine.
T. H. DAVIES,
Agent contrs. victg. H. M. navy.
W. J. HAMILTON,
H. C. marine.

Bombay, 27th Feb. 1810.

Having examined the above mentioned tierce of provisions, I hereby certify, that it is the same, as was brought round by me from Calcutta on board the Upton Castle for Mr. Forbes, being one of three casks sent by Mr. Robertson at the same time, and landed here in the month of February, 1804.

J. PAVIN.

The cask contained twenty briskets and as many humps, all of which were excellent, and continued so to the last, although the cask was opened as often as it became necessary to take out a piece of either for use, during a period of 5 or 6 months.

CHARLES FORBES.

BENGAL CANVAS AND CORDAGE.

The accompanying testimonies of some successful and conclusive trials on Canvas and Cordage, manufactured in India, most incontrovertibly established not only their excellence, but likewise gave them a decided preference over all others. It affords an opportunity, in announcing this, of paying a just tribute of praise to the merits of Mr. Jones, to whose skill and industry the present state of perfection to which these arts have advanced, is wholly owing, and it may be safely asserted, that no individual, possessed of greater practical mechanical knowledge, or who has employed it with more successful application, ever arrived in this country than the gentleman mentioned.

To Mr. Jones.

SIR,

I have the pleasure of sending you a report of the manner in which your rope and canvas has worn. I shall be very glad to find that we may be able to procure more of it, as it is infinitely superior to either Europe

rope or any country rope I have seen, and is in my opinion full equal to the Manilla rope.

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
(Signed) FLEETWOOD PELLEW, Capt.

Phaeton, off the Sand Heads, February 10, 1810.

A report of the wear of some rope and canvas sent on board his Majesty's ship Phaeton, in June, 1809, by Mr. Jones, of Calcutta, on trial.

The rope has been rove, and in continued wear as a jib downfal and foretop-gallant haulyards ever since, the ship having been nearly all the time at sea and in the very rainy bad weather for a considerable portion of it. It has already worn out Europe rope of double its size twice over, and all other country rope furnished us bears no competition whatever with it. It possesses great strength, and resists wet to an uncommon degree, which the other country rope of different sorts, some with, and others without tar, did not; it still looks as well when newly rove. The canvas is extremely good, and in our opinion fully equal or stronger than Europe canvas of a similar number.

(Signed) W. GODFREY, *Master.*
(Signed) J. BARRY, *Boatswain of his Majesty's ship Phaeton.*

EXTRAORDINARY PHENOMENA.

Earthquakes.

The late Indian prints contain some extraordinary accounts of earthquakes, which followed one another in quicker succession, than had been previously known within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. Some of these, not only descriptive of the awful phœnomena, but explanatory of the supposed causes of them, according to the crude and indigested opinions of the natives, may chance to amuse and to interest the reader.

At twenty-three minutes past seven o'clock, on Sunday evening, the 1st of April, an earthquake was very sensibly felt in Calcutta, and its neighbourhood. It consisted of two distinct concussions, the second following at an interval of 6 or 7 seconds. The series of undulations occasioned by each shock, did not continue longer than 6 or 8 seconds; though the vibrations produced were extremely quick; a circumstance that may probably explain the higher effect upon the senses of the observer, occasioned by this earthquake; which, though in itself but slight, gave an impression of more awe and sublimity, than is usually produced by an earthquake of such moderate force. From the time of its occurrence, in the stillness of the evening, it was very generally noticed. It may be remarked also, that it happened a few minutes after the cessation of a pretty smart north wester.

How far this earthquake extended, or the extreme points at which it was perceptible, have not yet been ascertained; but although the shocks were gentle, they probably extended to some considerable distance. They were felt along the banks of the river, several miles above and below Calcutta, and were perceptible at Dum Dum, and more smartly at Barrackpore and at Baripore.

The time of their occurrence, at the different places where they were noticed, appears from all the information that has reached us, to have been simultaneous, or nearly so. In a house at the head of Garden Reach, where the shocks were particularly observed, a considerable degree of motion was communicated by the earthquake, to the oil in the glass-burners, placed in the wall shades. The undulation of the oil was remarkable; and the limit of its extent being easily found, from the mark left upon the surface of the glass, it was accurately measured, at soon as the motion had subsided, when it appeared to have been raised two lines, or the sixth of an inch. The direction of the shocks was from north-east to south-west.

The popular explanation in Bengal,

of the cause of earthquakes, is highly fanciful, and somewhat amusing. The Bengalese, like some other Asiatics, believe the earth to be supported by a snake, of stupendous size and strength, and gifted with an hundred heads. The earth, say these fanciful theorists, is borne by no more than one head at a time, which as it becomes fatigued, by the weight, is relieved by another. In shifting the load from one head to the other, a certain degree of jarring motion is produced, just as one sometimes finds in the interchange of the palankeen among the shoulders of a sullen or careless set of bearers; so in shifting the earth, the motion is greater or less, according to the negligence, design, or awkwardness, of the parties, delivering and receiving the burthen, which produces a corresponding motion at the surface of the globe, occasioning earthquakes of greater or less force. If the Hindoo, who maintains the soundness of this explanation, be asked, how or by what power the snake is supported, his answer is ready:—"it has," says he, "a sure foundation on the back of a tortoise." If the inquirer chance to be still dissatisfied, and shall ask, how is this tortoise sustained, with the weight of the universe on his back? It is answered, that he is supported by the power of Almighty God.—If then it shall be objected, and you say, since divine power thus sustains the whole fabric, the same power can with equal ease, give stability and order to the universe, without the intervention of the snake or the tortoise; the Hindoo will revolt at this amendment, which is to strip his belief of the aid it so manifestly derives from his imagination. He can readily credit what is monstrous and absurd; but the grand simplicity of nature cannot be brought to the level of his understanding.

However we may be disposed to smile at the credulity, and the absurdity of the notions of the Hindoo, we must after all allow, that his doctrine is not a whit more ridiculous, than the imaginary vortices of Des Cartes, on which he founded a theory that, for some time, even in the enlightened countries of Europe, successfully opposed the true doctrine of nature and Newton.

We must not overlook a most interesting point of the Bengalese precepts, which declare that the earth varies in its weight, becoming light according to the virtues, and heavy in proportion to the sins of the homuncular puppets, upon its surface: hence, in proportion as it becomes heavy, by the increasing crimes of mankind, the supporting head of the serpent, becomes the sooner fatigued, rendering it necessary to relieve the burthen the oftener; and consequently, in proportion as the world is sinful, earthquakes must be frequent

On Sunday evening, the 13th May, at 14 minutes before ten o'clock, three shocks of an earthquake were felt in Calcutta, and to a considerable distance round.—The shocks were more severe than those on the 1st ultimo: the motion, to a number of observers in Calcutta, seemed to be perpendicular to the horizon. The three concussions were short in duration, and terminated a vibratory or undulatory motion, that continued for 8 or 10 seconds, and the phenomenon went off with a loud rumbling noise. The doors and windows, and parts of the furniture in some houses, were shaken, and the shades and wine glasses upon the table, in a few instances, shared in the motion. It is remarkable that the motion in particular houses was much more distinct and forcible than in others closely adjoining. That this difference is not merely apparent, or to be ascribed to error or inaccuracy of observation, has been clearly ascertained.—The shocks were evidently partial in their operation; that is, the effects were exerted with different degrees of force in different places; acting with violence in one place, while at another, though but a few yards distant, they were so moderate as to be scarcely perceptible. The same thing, however, is pretty generally noticed in the principal earthquakes, of which we have any distinct account. In the memorable earthquake at Ja-

maica, in 1692, and in Europe, on the 1st of November, 1755, the shocks of both were felt to a great extent; the latter particularly, having reached above two thousand miles, including in its scope, nearly four millions of miles of the earth's surface; and, although the violence of the first was chiefly spent at Port Royal, and the latter at Lisbon, which places might be considered as their foci or centres, still particular parts of both cities escaped the almost general devastation;—while entire streets were swallowed up, several houses escaped without injury. Hence it seems probable that the moving force is propagated in lines, like radii running from a centre, leaving the interstitial spaces to share the effect of the concussion at second hand. Thus we see panes of glass, when broken, at or near their centre, frequently crack in numerous diverging lines, while the intervening surfaces remain entire. This is a clumsy illustration, and is not offered as presenting any correct analogy; yet it may serve to convey an idea how contiguous places may participate in the effects of earthquakes, with very different degrees of force.

No accounts respecting the earthquake of Sunday evening, have been received from any point to the northward, more distant than Chinsurah, and from Diamond Harbour to the southward. At both those places, and at almost all the intermediate points, it was felt with considerable force. At Chandernagore, Serampore more especially, Barrackpore, Barasut, Dum Dum, &c. the shocks were particularly observed. No injury has been sustained from this alarming visitation.

Extract of a Letter from Berampore, dated 22d May, 1810.

"The only news I have to communicate to you, is an extraordinary event that took place here a few days ago. The water in our Tank, which I have known these thirty-four years, changed suddenly to the colour of dark green, and an immense quantity of fish, many of them weighing from ten to eighteen seers, floated dead on the surface of it. Some few were taken out by the natives and carried away; the remainder were transported by hackry loads and buried, or applied to the purposes of manure. This strange occurrence is attributed by most people to the recent earthquake."

NATURAL HISTORY.

BEES.

The *bees* of the *South of India* are of four kinds:

1. That from which most of the honey and wax is procured, is called *Hegenu*. This is a large bee, which builds under projections of the rocks, or in caverns. A large nest gives eight *Seers, Seringapatam* weight of honey, $4\frac{85}{100}$lbs. and three *seers* of wax, $1\frac{82}{100}$lb. A small hive gives one-third of this quantity. The honey is gathered twice a year, in *Ashádha* and *Mágha*, or in the month following the summer solstice, and the second after that of winter. Some people of the *Bayduru* cast make the collecting of honey and wax a profession, and it is one attended with much danger. Having discovered a hive, some of them kindle a fire under the rock, and throw on it the leaves of the *Cassia fistula*, and of the *Puleseri*, which emit a smoke so acid, that nothing living can endure it. The bees are forced to retire, and some others of the Baydas, so soon as the smoke subsides, lower down by a rope one of their companions, who with a pole knocks off the nest, and is immediately drawn up again; for, if he made any delay, the bees would re-

turn, and their stinging is so violent, that it endangers life. In order to fortify himself against the sharp points of rocks, and against injury from the rope, which passes round his chest, the adventurous Bayada is secured, before and behind, by several folds of leather.

2. The bee that produces the next greatest quantity of honey is called the *Cadi*, or *Chittu Jainu*; that is, stick, or small honey. This bee is very small, and builds around the branch of a tree, a comb of an oblong shape, and sharpened at both ends. It is found at all seasons, but is in the greatest perfection at the same time with the other. The honey is of the finest quality; but the whole comb seldom weighs more than two *seers*, or $1\frac{2}{10}$lb. This bee does not sting, and is readily driven away by a twig switched round the comb.

3. The *Tuduvay* is a bee of which the honey is of an excellent quality, but rarely procured, for it generally builds deep in the crevices of rocks, where it is totally inaccessible. Sometimes, however, it is found in hollow trees, and one hive will give from 20 to 25 *seers* of honey, or about 12 or 15 pounds; but the quantity of wax is in proportion small. This is a large bee, but it very seldom stings those who plunder its hive.

4. The *Togriga* is a very small bee, that seldom stings. It takes possession of the deserted nests of the white ants (Termes) which in this country are very numerous in the wastes of red soil, such as is usually cultivated for *Raggy*. Of this stiff earth, the white ants raise hills resembling the stump of a tree, which are from four to six feet high, very hard, and able long to resist the heaviest rain. These, when deserted, most commonly become the lurking places of snakes; but sometimes give shelter to the *Togriga* bee. Its nest is, therefore, easily accessible; but it is very small, and contains only about a *seer* of honey, and half a *seer* of wax.

THE SANDAL TREE.

Iri Gunda, Santelum Album, or the *Sandal Tree*, is the common product of the South of India, and its wood is a considerable article of commerce at *Bangalore*. The best comes from the *Nagara* district, and from the country bordering on the western *Ghauts*. An inferior kind comes from *Madura*, *Denkina-cotay*, *Deva-rdyana-cotay*, and other places in the ridge of hills, which run north from *Capala-durga*. Each kind is divided into three sorts; the first is that which is between the root and first branches; the second is that of the large branches; and the third is that of the small branches, so far as these contain red wood.

The *sandal* tree, according to the idea of the natives, is of two kinds, male and female: the former of which is dark, the latter pale-coloured; both are of the same value. The *sandal* of the old tree is said to be more valuable than that from a young one; but the merchants go entirely by the strength of its smell. During Tippoo's government none of the *sandal-wood* came to this market: he either did not allow it to be cut, or else stored up in his forts whatever was felled.

WHEAT OF THE KARNATA.

The wheat is of the kind called *Hota Godi*, or the *Triticum spelta*; and there are two seasons for its cultivation, the *Hainu* and *Caru*. It is sown on

the best soil only, and always after a crop of *Carlay*. The *Caru* season, when the rains set in early, is always preferred, not only as the wheat is then more productive, but as in the same year it may be followed by a crop of cotton, which is not the case with the *Hainu* wheat. In the two months following the vernal equinox, the field for *Caru* wheat is dunged, ploughed two or three times, and then hoed with the *cuntay*, which is drawn by oxen. The seed is then sown, in drills one cubit distant, by dropping it in the furrow after a plow. On the 15th, 28th, and 35th days, the hoe is again used; and two or three days afterwards the weeds are removed by the *calay cudugulu*. This wheat ripens in three months and a half, and is immediately followed by a crop of cotton. A *Nurcumba* requires seven *colagas* of seed, and in a good crop produces 540 *seers*. An acre, therefore, sows a little more than one peck, and yields almost four bushels and a half. The wheat is liable to be spoiled by a disease called *Ursina Mari*, owing to which, in the course of one day, it becomes yellow and dies.

When the rains are late in coming, the *Hainu* crop of wheat is taken after *Carlay*. Cotton cannot be taken in the same year. The manner of cultivation is the same as for the *Caru* crop, only the season is different. The ploughings are performed in the month which precedes the autumnal equinox, or in the beginning of that which follows. At the end of this month the seed is sown. The produce is about one half only of that of the *Caru* crop.

HYDROGRAPHY.

The following copy of a letter, addressed to the Resident of Croee, on the west coast of Sumatra, by the captain of his majesty's ship, Belliqueux, giving an account of a rock situated in Croee bay, is published for general information.

To Sir James Brown, Esq. resident at Croee.

SIR,

I beg leave to represent to you, that there is, in this roadstead, a rock, bearing as on the margin,* which makes it very dangerous for ships approaching this anchorage. I therefore most earnestly recommend your immediately laying a buoy on it for the safety of his majesty's ships, or any others that may wish to stop here.

I beg leave further to inform you, that I have laid a temporary buoy down, where I would recommend your putting one of a large size to continue.

I have the honour to be, &c.

(Signed) G. BYNG.

H. M. Ship, Belliqueux,
Croee Bay, July 21, 1810.

By order of the marine board.

R. SCOTT, Secretary.

Fort William, Dec. 5, 1810.

* A remarkable tree, close by the entrance of the river, N. 43. E. Resident's house, S. 40 E. outer point of Selallo rock, S. 9 E. outer South point of the bay, S. 25 W. Buoy laid down in 3 fathoms, about half a mile from the shore.

POETRY.

*ODE OF SADI,

PARAPHRASED BY ENSIGN WILKES, 1788.

Come, gentlest† breeze of the morn,
And whisper the source of my care;
Say what beauties that idol adorn,
Yet tell how she's cruel as fair!

How her musk-shedding locks thro' the grove
Their ravishing fragrance diffuse;
How you rifle the lips of my love,
And the sweets of the season refuse!

How her smiles scatter bliss o'er the plain,
While slighted and hapless I rove,
With the bird of the eve‡ to complain,
And warble the sorrows of love.

Yet, gentlest breeze, when you go,
Fresh fragrance to cull from her treasures,
Should she melt at the tale of my woe,
Ah! whisper in tenderest measures,

How with truth and with ardor I love,
Yet the secret I dare not impart;
How each accent I breathe thro' the grove,
But re-echoes the throb of my heart!

Then change, hollow blast of the morn,
To the wailings of Sadi's despair;
Sing the dirge of a maniac forlorn,
To an idol that's cruel as fair!

ON THE VALE OF BOZAA,

By Ahmed Ben Yousef Almenazy.
From "Specimens of Arabian Poetry."

The intertwining boughs for thee
Have wove, sweet dell, a verdant vest,
And thou in turn shalt give to me
A verdant couch upon thy breast.

To shield me from day's fervid glare,
Thine oaks their fost'ring arms extend,
As anxious o'er her infant care
I've seen a watchful mother bend.

A brighter cup, a sweeter draught,
I gather from that rill of thine,
Than maddening drunkards ever quaff'd,
Than all the treasures of the vine.

So smooth the pebbles on its shore,
That not a maid cou'd thither stray,
But *counts* her *strings* of *jewels* o'er,
And thinks the *pearls* have *slipp'd away.*

TO A LADY,

WHO ACCUSED HER LOVER OF FLATTERY.
From the Same.

No, *Abla*, no—when *Selim* tells
Of many an unknown grace that dwells
In *Abla's* face and mien;
When he describes the sense refin'd
That lights thine eye and fills thy mind,
By thee alone unseen—

'Tis not that drunk with love he sees
Ideal charms, which only please
Thro' passion's partial veil;
'Tis not that flattery's glozing tongue
Hath basely fram'd an idle song,
But truth that breath'd the tale.

Thine eyes unaided ne'er could trace
Each opening charm, each varied grace,
That round thy person plays;
Some must remain conceal'd from thee
For *Selim's* watchful eye to see,
For *Selim's* tongue to praise.

* This poetical trifle was found among the papers of a gentleman, who had resided long in India, indorsed as in the title; and although the Editor possesses no farther information on the subject, he has no doubt that it is a juvenile production of the author of "Historical Sketches of the South of India," &c. &c.

The learned essay, inserted in a preceding page, on the writings of Sadi, will rescue them from the character of being *forced* and *constrained*, as ascribed to them by a Persian scholar, in a note of the last volume of the Register; and the little piece before the Reader may have a like tendency to the same end.

† Is it necessary to apologise for the young poetaster giving two syllables the measure of three?

‡ Sadi, and all Persian poets, distinguish the nightingale as the bird of the morning; but this deviation from the original was necessary, in giving him an English dress.

One polished mirror can declare
That eye so bright, that face so fair,
That cheek which shames the rose;
But how thy mantle waves behind,
How float thy tresses on the wind,
Another only shews.

ON FATALISM.
From the same.

Not always wealth, not always force,
A splendid destiny commands;
The lordly vulture gnaws the corse
That rots upon yon barren sand.

Nor want, nor weakness still conspires
To bind us to a sordid state;
The fly, that with a touch expires,
Sips honey from the royal plate.

A PERSIAN FABLE.*
Rendered into verse from the Spectator.

Nobilitas sola est atque unica virtus.

One cloudy day a drop of rain,
(As he hung hov'ring o'er the main)
Cry'd out, with innate modesty,
" What can I add, O flood to thee?
When once upon thy surface toss'd,
In thy immensity I'm lost;
Of no importance to thy wave,
I seem, at last, to meet my grave.
O! why should Jove, all good, all wise,
The least of all his creatures prize?
Why should his blessings downward fly,
On such a worthless form as I?"
With pleasure Jove his ear inclin'd
To one so humble, so resign'd,
True merit claims his high regard,
And seldom loses its reward.
This modest, unambitious drop,
Soon by an oyster swallowed up;
Content within its shell he lies,
And there to heav'n erects his eyes;
To Jove directs his daily pray'r,
And thanks the godhead for his care.
His praises, incense like, arise,
And, as they mount, perfume the skies.
"Pleas'd with thy pray'rs, and with thy praise
I'll now," said Jove, " thy fortune raise,
Henceforth become, (so Heav'n sees good)
A pearl of the first magnitude:
And thus transform'd with speed resort,
To fair Britannia's splendid court;
There all thy radiant lustre spread
Around my fav'rite Charlotte's head:
Tell her 'twas I, Jove, sent thee down
To stand conspicuous on her crown:
Since well, I know, in her esteem,
" VIRTUE's the BRIGHTEST DIADEM."

ODE OF HAFEZ.
From Richardson's Specimen of Persian Poetry.

Hither, O Sophist, hither fly,
Behold this joy-inspiring bowl!
Bright as a ruby to the eye,
How must the taste rejoice the soul!

Love's sacred myst'ries would you know,
Learn them amidst the young, the gay,
Where mirth and wine profusely flow,
And mind not what the grave one's say.

He wastes his time in idle play,
Who for the griffin spreads his snare;
'Tis vain—no more your nets display,
You only catch the fleeting air.

Since fortune veers with every wind,
Enjoy the present happy hours.
Lo! the great father of mankind
Was banish'd Eden's blissful bowers.

Drink, then, nor dread the approach of age,
Nor let sad cares your mirth destroy;
For on this transitory stage,
Think not to taste perpetual joy.

The spring of youth now disappears,
Why pluck you not life's only rose?
With virtue mark your future years,
This earthly scene with honour close.

With generous wine then fill the bowl,
Swift, swift to Jami, Zephyr, fly,
Tell him that friendship's flow of soul,
While Hafez lives shall never die.

A translation of Latin verses, from the Arabic.

My boy, the glasses hither bring,
Present the balmy treasure;
More briskly pour it round the ring,
And pour it without measure.
Wine can lovers' pangs assuage,
Wine allays the cares of age.

The wine is like to ruddy Sol,
The cup of hue so mellow,
To portly Cynthia, fair and full,
Courting her lordly fellow:
Brisker rouse the ruddy light,
Pour on wine to make it bright.

What though in beauty's transient hour,
The roses lose their blushing?
Above, the purple nectar pour,
And strew them fresh and flushing.
Let Philomel forsake the grove;
Wine inspires the song of love.

* The literal translation of this fable from Sadi, will be found at page 409, preceding.

Heed not fortune's scornful frown,
In bumper's drown all sorrow;
Sleep soon shall all our wishes crown,
And crown them till to-morrow.
Bring round to me, the nectar'd stream,
Wine inspires the golden dream.

How sweet the genial flush of drink,
Larger draughts give larger pleasure.
Sit we till we cease to think
On aught besides our mellow treasure.
My friend be jovial right or wrong,
We'll drink our glass and sing our song.

MUTANABI TO HIS SWORD.*

[This, and the following copy of verses, are extracted from the Indian prints; as are also the remarks subjoined to each, which were prefixed to the originals by way of illustration, and recommended to the notice of the Indian Editor.— The merits of these whimsical productions are so apparent and so striking, as to require not any apology, except to the author, for the republication of them.

Sharp biting sword! these gems that shine,
Inlaid in equal sparkling line,
Beam like the eye, with living light,
As Mutanabi's genius bright;
While in red battle's fearful path
They shine the piercing eyes of death.
Their radiant waves of changeful hue,
Bemock, forbid the dazzled view;
The dancing gleams of kindling fire,
Like dangerous characters aspire;
Paining the spell-bound glance they swell,
The fearful magic marks of hell;
But when their softer radiance plays,
Bright motes amid the solar blaze.
Thy bright blue edge, devoid of wem,
Has drunk the waters of the gem;
Thy ribs have reached the dazzling brink,
But scared by lightning fear to drink.
Thy stubborn hilt, of metal prime,
Has withered up the hands of time.
Thine edge so sheer, and sweetly bites,
No blood-drop stains it, as it smites.
Dishonour dare not touch the hand
That, glorying wields thee, burnish'd brand!
The shade of darkness soon decays,
When once thy vivid lightning plays;
Thine is the shade infestive hour
That spreads my green and summer bow'r;
And fenced by thee, I fearless range,
Through howling deserts waste and strange.
Bright Yemen blade! thy worth I prize
Beyond the apple of my eyes;
For when thy light'ning glances shine
The glory of thy task is mine,

* "I send you an imitation of the Arabic poem of Mutanabi. However well the style of the original may be entitled to rank with that of Pindar, I believe it will be difficult to exhibit this similarity in a translation. The manner of Mutanabi is extremely averse to the European taste, in many respects; and this discrepancy strikingly appears in one instance, in the ADDRESS TO THE SWORD. The praise of the gems, with which the sword was inlaid, is lengthened out in such an encomiastic strain, that it may almost be considered as rivaling the praise of the sword itself; and these gems are successively compared to the most dissimilar objects; the letters of a talisman, and the motes in the sun beam. Mutanabi uses also some very harsh figures, which it is scarcely possible, by any softening, to reconcile to our style of poetry. He declares that so highly does he prize his sabre, that he could, if it were possible, make his eyes its sheath. He addresses his sword as his brother in arms, and adds, that in attacking the foe, they will confine themselves each to his own species, he to flesh, and the sword to iron. The violent hyperbole in the last verse, is more extravagant than any other figure in the poem; but Mutanabi was an accomplished warrior, as well as poet, and contemplated his sabre with very different emotions from those which inspire the majority of modern bards, few of whom have ever seen a sword drawn for service. I have read somewhere, that when Mutanabi was attacked by the robbers, on the occasion in which he perished, perceiving their great superiority of numbers, he at first prepared for flight. The slave who attended him, exclaimed, repeating one of his own couplets, "Ha! Mutanabi, have you not said, "the steed, the night, and the desert, are familiar to me; I am equally versed in wielding the scymiter, darting the spear, and managing the paper and pen."—"By the God of the scymiter," replied Mutanabi, "you say true;"—and instantly turning his horse, rushed impetuously among the ranks of the enemy, and perished.

ZEHIR.

And when thy hiss shrill sings afar,
'Tis Mutanabi's song of war.
All meaner feats dost thou disdain
Than hacking necks and waists in twain
And rending harsh of iron mail,—
Where'er we two the foes assail,
Kind to kind, our force they feel,
Man to man, and steel to steel.
In Najd, of late, at dead of night,
When trampling steeds awoke thy light,
Wide o'er Hajaj, thy lightning-train
Flash'd, while parch'd Arabs shouted "rain!"

---

*Paddy Whack to his own country weapon.**

Arrah! sweet-lips, my jewel, so burnish'd and nice,
Your temper is trusty and biting like spice;†
To see you lugg'd out, and prepar'd for the fight,
Makes my peepers to twinkle with joy and delight.
Like mystical writings on charms, with amaze,
We see wat'ry letters inscrib'd on a blaze:
The eye that so boldly your splendour would brave,
Is dazzled and mock'd by the serpentine wave,
That is seen on your surface so wildly to run,
Like motes gaily dancing i' th rays of the sun.
In the blood of the foe men, when you take a dip,
Your edge a few drops is contented to sip,
While I in the current exultingly swim,
And swill it in goblets full up to the brim.
The belts of old time your weight have suspended,
Till, gnaw'd by your edge, they require to be mended,
No drop of blood sticks to your keen cutting edge,
He that draws you, of honour ne'er forfeits the pledge.
Your light, with a smack of the right Usquebaugh,‡
All darkness dispels, when for battle you draw.
Och! my *Skean*, little urchin, so dearly I prize,
Its sheath, if I could, should be th' lids of my eyes.
By your brightness, my honey, in battle I shine,
Your brilliant achievements and glory are mine.
Your clashing and hacking claim greater regard,
Than the pipe, flute and harp, or the song of the bard.§
I carry not you for mere splendour or show,
But for splitting of heads, necks, ribs, at a blow.

* Odds bullets and brains, Mr Editor, what a PISTOL of a fellow is this bloody-minded Arabian poet Mutanabi!—WIDE NOSTRILL's, the swallower of wind-mills, was a Miss Molly to him: his very looks would rout one of our modern armies, and with that cut and thrust sword of his, *sheathed in his eyelids*, I believe even our Calcutta yeomanry, with Buonaparte at their head, would look a little blue—a scowl would make them ground arms,

> "With such a furious tempest on his brows,
> As if the world's four winds were pent within
> His blustering carcase."

With all his vagaries, he is a fellow of spunk, and making allowance for his *Verba Tragica* 'confusion, horror, murder, guts and death,' he sings in as martial a style of pleasing apostrophy, as any military bard of my acquaintance; in fact I feel a little inspired myself on the occasion, and cannot resist the desire to try an imitation, in an address to my own country weapon, which may be set to music for that ingenious instrument called a humstrum, which you know is composed of a mopkick, a bladder, and some pack-thread. If this is not procurable, a tin canister will do.

Your's ever,
PADDY WHACK.

† The temper of a sword.—Aromatics added to food.

‡ A bag filled with water; a liquor not at all to my taste.

§ The Arabian poet has stolen the thought from the original Irish Feast.

What stabs and what cuts,
What clattering of sticks,
What strokes on the guts,
What baisting and kicks!
What cudgels of oak,
Well hardened in flame,
A hundred heads broke,
A hundred struck lame?

Thus our foes and our armies are destined to feel,
Me, the stoutest of roysters; you, sharpest of steel.
When I drew you at midnight in Wicklow, the glare,
Quick flash'd, like the lightning, as far as Kildare.

THE PHILOSOPHY OF EVIL.

From POETICS; or a Series of POEMS and DISQUISITIONS on Poetry, just published, BY GEORGE DYER, Formerly of Emanuel College, Cambridge.

It was when dark November frown'd;
Country and town alike were dreary;
Nothing was smiling all around,
Nought within cheary.

"Oh! for some pure ætherial sphere,
"To which no dregs of matter cling,
"Where flows serene th' all-perfect year,
"From mind's pure spring?

"It might not be—a form I view—
"Stern was his front, and fierce his eye;
"His robe mix'd of November's hue,
"On crimson dye.

"Clamour and rage, and trembling fear,
"In grim wild state, before him go;
"And in his hand he couch'd a spear,
"As tow'rds some foe.

"Sing not to me, he cried, of loves;
"Sigh not to me in pity's strains;
"Nor think to lure me to the groves,
"To pipe with swains.

"Different my joys—I traverse earth—
"I range thro' air—I pierce the sea;
"And every creature by its birth,
"Is bound to me.

"Each from me some instinct draws,
"Which towards its kin engenders strife;
"Birds, fishes, yielding to my laws,
"Feed upon life.

"Have you not heard in distant wood,
"How greedy beasts pursue their way?
"By turns, each drinks some creature's blood,
"By turns, the prey.

"Have you not mark'd the busy world,
"Where reason forms its wiser plan,
"How man, by furious passions whirl'd,
"Preys upon man?

"'Tis mine—I stir the active thought,
"I rouse the passions, urge the deed;
"And there I feast, where thousands fought,
"And thousands bleed.

"Mid' storms and fire, I sit and sing,
"Most pleas'd when least I have of form,
"I sail upon the whirlwind's wing,
"And guide the storm.

"When Ætna belches flame around,
"I gaze, and gaze with greedy eye,
"Where cities late with plenty crown'd,
"In ruins lie.

"Does ocean rave? I look and think,
"Unruffled on the sounding shore,
"And rise with joy, as thousands sink,
"To rise no more.

"Do earthquakes growl beneath the land?
"I wait expectant of the sight;
"And grow, as earths wide jaws expand,
"Wild with delight.

"Of life their babes, when Hindoos spoil,
"The pious deed I loud proclaim;
"And of their widows' funeral pile,
"I light the flame.

"'Tis mine—all mine—I boast the deeds—
"And call myself the friend of man;
"'Tis mine—and see the work proceeds,
"'Tis nature's plan.

"On man what crowding ills attend!
"See how creation pants for room!
"Ah! wretch, I haste that wretches friend,
"To build his tomb."

The Persian Magi held two principles, one the author of good, the other of evil. The Indian mythology paints the latter under different forms, more particularly as Seeva.

In the sacred writings of the Jews, also, this principle appears, and is called a serpent, (Gen. iii. 1.) and on this the Christian doctrine is founded. It seems to be, and thus it is explained by many critics, the principle of evil, as personified in the philosophy of the East. And it is remarkable, that in Persia, both the principles were personified, under the symbol of two serpents contending for the Mundane egg.

In the above poem, no allusion is made to the origin of evil. It only admits its existence, and accords with that philosophy, which supposes it a necessary part of the present system, and that partial evil may be universal good.

ACCOUNT OF BOOKS.

Select Letters of Tippoo Sultan, &c. &c. arranged and translated by William Kirkpatrick, Major General in the service of the honourable the East India Company. Black, Parry, and Kingsbury, 1811.

The original letters, embraced by the foregoing title, are part of a series of correspondence, found among the public records of the government of Mysore, whence they passed, on the fall of Seringapatam, into the possession of the captors; having been fortunately preserved from destruction, by the exertion principally of an individual, in the disorder and confusion of the assault.

The letters comprised in the present volume, are selected with great judgment by the translator, from a larger store in his hands, not so much with a view, as he tells us, to shed a light on the material occurrences of the period to which they relate, as to illustrate the genius, talents, and disposition, of their extraordinary author, "who is here successively and repeatedly delineated, in colours from his own pencil, as the cruel and relentless enemy; the intolerant bigot or furious fanatic; the oppressive and unjust ruler; harsh and rigid master; the sanguinary tyrant; the perfidious negotiator; the frivolous and capricious innovator; the mean and minute œconomist; the peddling trader; and even the retail shop-keeper. The painter [he concludes,] will not be suspected of overcharging the unfavourable traits of the picture, when it is considered that the picture is his own."

The correspondence most unhappily exhibits the Sultan in all of the odious shades in which he is here described by the indignant translator of his writings. But it might be feared, if by a similar accident the archives of other princes should fall into adverse hands, and be published to the world, they might betray, if not the whole host of base and unworthy passions in motion that appear, from his own writings, to have governed the private conduct of the eastern despot, at least some marks or resemblance of more than one characteristic vice, that seems to have influenced his public acts.

Having explained the motive of the publication, the translator naturally descends to describe the manner of its execution, and, after stating that the present selection had been made from about a *thousand* letters, he proceeds to inform the reader, by what circumstances he has been determined in his choice.

"I have confined myself (he says) almost entirely, to such (letters) as either appeared to exhibit the Sultan in some new light; to unfold some of his political, financial, or commercial views; or to elucidate some historical fact. Those which merely related to the details of ordinary business, without eliciting any thing peculiarly characteristic of the writer, have been passed over. I have also judged it unnecessary to insert any part of the Sultan's correspondence with the several British governors of India, as most of these documents are already in the possession of the public.

"I will now proceed to give some account of the rules by which I have in general been guided in the course of the present translation.

"My principal object in this work, being to present as striking a likeness of Tippoo, as the nature of my materials, and the extent of my ability to employ them advantageously, would admit, I thought it essential to this end, to render his sentiments, on all occasions, as closely as the different idioms of the two languages would allow, without involving the sense in difficulty or obscurity. In short, what I wished, but

cannot hope to have attained, is, that the reader, losing sight entirely of the translator, should fancy himself in presence of the Sultan, listening to the latter, while dictating to one or other of the different secretaries by whom he was usually attended.

"Proceeding on this principle, I have, for the most part, adhered more strictly to the phraseology or diction of my original, than is usually deemed necessary or expedient in translations from a foreign language, and I am ready to admit, that my unwillingness to relinquish the slightest turn of expression, appearing particularly to denote the feeling which suggested it, may have sometimes led me too far; still, however, my translation is not absolutely a verbal one, since I have not scrupled to exercise a certain licence as often as either our language could not be easily bent to the form of the Persian, or ambiguity was likely to result from the attempt. There are, indeed, two points in which I acknowledge to have uniformly deviated from the strict letter of the original, and on which it may not be improper in this place, to submit a few observations to the notice of the reader."

These are explained to be the departure from the literal or grammatical sense of the text, to give the translation a more ordinary or familiar air. He then pursues—

"With the exceptions which have been stated, and scarcely with any other, my general rule has been to retain, as nearly as possible, every word and thought, that seemed to mark, in any prominent degree, the peculiar cast of the writer's mind.

"Tippoo Sultan, indeed, rarely took up his pen, without its laying open some recess or other of his various and irregular mind. He seldom issues an order that does not bespeak either the general tone of his nature, or the particular impulse of the moment. He seems to have felt no hesitation in avowing, in the course of the letters which follow, the most flagitious sentiments; and this may be accounted for on one or other, or on both, of these principles. The letters being, in the first place, addressed, with few exceptions, to persons in absolute dependence on him, he consequently would be wholly free from that sort of reserve which arises from the fear of incurring the censure or reproach of the world.

"He knew his will to be a law, the propriety of which, as it might concern others, would never be canvassed or doubted by any of his slaves. In the next place, he probably measured the sentiments in question by a different standard from that with which we estimate them. Thus the various murders and acts of treachery, which we see him directing to be carried into execution, were not criminal; but, on the contrary, just, and even meritorious in his eyes. They might, and most likely did, in a great degree, proceed from a disposition naturally cruel and sanguinary; but, perhaps, an intolerant religious zeal and bigotry were not less active motives to them. The Koran taught him that it was not necessary to keep faith with infidels, or the enemies of the true religion, in which class it was not difficult for him to persuade himself that it was right to include all who opposed, or refused to co-operate in his views for the extension of that religion; or, in other words, for his own aggrandizement. Hence it was, that our Mussulman allies and subjects were scarcely less obnoxious to his hatred and vengeance than ourselves. With regard to the secret murder of his English prisoners, his dreadful slaughter of the Koorgs and Nairs, and his forcible conversion of so many thousands of the two latter tribes to the Mahommedan faith, he most probably thought such enormities no less warranted, both by the example and precepts of the founder of his religion, than the infraction of oaths and engagements in transactions with unbelievers."

The translator observes next on the pleonasms and tautologies of his version; which he justifies, wherever it seemed necessary in his own mind to preserve them, and excuses himself sufficiently, when he has thought proper to depart from or vary, which is not often, a monotonous phrase. In continuation of his explanatory remarks he says, that,

"Notwithstanding the few redundancies of style which have been noticed as pervading the following letters, their general characteristic is certainly brevity, which, perhaps, might proceed, in some degree, from a notion of the writer, that the laconic manner was the one best suited to the authoritative nature of his dispatches, as well as to the relative situation of the persons to whom they were chiefly addressed. It was certainly, too well adapted, if not absolutely necessary, to the purpose of one who had his pen for ever in his hand, and who himself (whether from inclination or from an universal distrust of all whom he employed, or from a passion to be thought, not only the principal, but the sole originator, of every thing) directed either by writing or orally, the most minute details of his government. Such a one could not have had leisure to compose long letters, had they been necessary: which, however, would rarely be the case. But be this as it might, the Sultan does not appear to have possessed a sufficient sketch of thought upon any subject (even those that he most delighted in, or affected) to enable him to discuss it, either with logical force or precision. A consecutive train of argument was a thing of which he no where seems to have had an idea: yet some of the occa-

sions, on which he wrote or dictated, certainly afforded ample scope for the display of the reasoning faculty. His writings, however, furnish as little proof of his having possessed this faculty as his actions in general did. Even in his own memoirs, which he did not begin to compose, till he was past forty, we meet with nothing indicating capacity of any kind. He did not even write with facility. This is clearly shewn, by various memorandums in his hand-writing, which, though very short, and on subjects of no difficulty, abound in erasures and corrections. One in particular, relating to the question, whether major Doveton should be allowed to accompany the hostage princes, on their return from Madras? is nearly unintelligible, in consequence of the interlineations which disfigure, and the general confusion of ideas and dates which pervades it. As this curious document, beside serving to establish the truth of the position just advanced, is, in some other respects, extremely interesting, the Persian reader may not be displeased to see a fac simile of it, which has been engraved for this work, and forms Appendix A."

"Although the authenticity of these letters will hardly be disputed, even by the most sceptical, yet the reader may hesitate to believe, that, with the exception, perhaps, of those addressed to the emperor of Hindoostan (the late Shah Allum,) and few others of the more elaborate or finished kind, if any of them may be so considered, they were either dictated by the *Sultan*, or actually proceeded from his pen. Nor, indeed, does this notion admit, at present, of any direct or positive proof. Its probability only can be contended for, and that, I think sufficiently deducible from the internal evidence afforded by those documents themselves, their laconic and abrupt style, their commanding and peremptory tone, and the asperity of language which distinguishes so many of them, all abundantly indicate their origin. No *Mûnshy*, or secretary in short can be reasonably supposed to have drafted such letters; while, as to the labour attending the composition or dictation of so many dispatches, as sometimes appear under the same date, it will scarcely be thought to constitute any objection to the present hypothesis, in the case of one so addicted to writing, and so indefatigable in business, as the *Sultan* was.

"To return from this digression, to the account I proposed giving of the plan of the following translation. The notes which I have annexed to it are of two kinds: those merely explanatory of a single word, or phrase, or referring to other letters, or relating to dates, appear at the bottom of the page. When, on the other hand, a particular letter or passage has suggested to me any reflections, to which I wished to draw the reader's attention, I have, instead of incumbering the page with them, placed them under the title of "observations," at the end of the letter giving rise to them. Upon this commentary, if I may so call those observations, I have taken occasion to engraft, besides other original matter, a considerable portion of a highly interesting manuscript, purporting to be a memoir of Tippoo Sultan, written by himself. This curious document was among the numerous papers discovered by colonel Ogg. The copy with which that gentleman favoured me was entitled *Tareekhe Khodâdâdy*, i. e. the *Khodâdâdy* Annals, or History of the Khodâdâd Sircar. The work was, from the beginning, in an imperfect state; the narrative being brought down to no later a period than the termination of the Mahratta war, or the month of February, 1787. My copy, however, has been rendered still more incomplete, by an unfortunate accident, which occasioned the destruction of several leaves of it; the original memoir evidently, as far as it went, the ground-work of the more diffuse and elaborate history of Zynûl Aabideen Shoostry, mentioned by colonel Wilks, and called by its author, in allusion to his master's name, "the Sultan of History." I am not enabled to say whether the copy of the fragment found by colonel Ogg was in the actual hand writing of the *Sultan*: but, however this may be, I venture to think, that no just doubt can be entertained of its genuineness. It was discovered in the palace of the *Sultan*, and along with other documents of unquestioned authenticity. The style and matter of it, moreover, abundantly support its claim to credit. It is written throughout in the first person; and while it states some facts which could be known only to the *Sultan*, it every where breathes the same over-weening spirit, which so strongly distinguishes almost every production of his pen. The Persian scholar, however, who may wish to judge on this point for himself, will have it in his power to do so, by inspecting the manuscript in question; which, together with the original of the following letters, will be desposited in the East India company's library.

"Such technical terms, (and especially the names of offices and employments) as I could not render into English, with perfect reliance on the fidelity of my intrepretation, I have retained in the original, and subjoined, by the way of notes, the best explanation of them in my power to give. I may add here, that whenever I have been in any doubt, with respect to the sense of a particular word or phrase, I have usually noticed it, offering at the same time, the interpretation that seemed to me to be nearest the truth, and not unfrequently putting the original Persian at the bottom of the page. Where the meaning, on the other hand, owing to some error in the manuscript, or

to my insufficiency, has appeared utterly inexplicable, I have thought it best to pass over the unintelligible part altogether, but never without announcing the omission.

"This seems the proper place for apprizing the reader, that the words enclosed in hooks, or crotchets, are not strictly warranted by the original, but have been supplied, in order to complete the sense, and prevent the obscurity which their omission would have been liable to produce, for, however diffuse or exuberant the usual style of Persian composition may be, that language abounds in phrases and modes of expression, which, owing to their concise structure, leave much to be understood, and which can be rendered intelligible in English, only by such means as I have occasionally adopted."

From the preceding developement of the plan, by which the translator professed himself to have been guided in the execution of his task, the reader may form to himself some notion of the trouble and pains, by which it has been achieved. How successfully it has been executed, he may also form a judgment from the specimens of the translations that follow, which the reader will perceive to be so many detached parts of a very miscellaneous work of which it would be difficult to give a more precise and connected idea, than may be collected from the contents of succeeding letters and observations.

Letter III.— To Mahommed Ghyâs; dated 6th of Byâzy, (21st February.)

Your letter of the 19th of *Eezudy* [5th of February] has been received, and the whole of its contents are comprehended. The *fixed* or *regulated* money is ready. Whenever the chiefs of that place [*Poonah*] demand it, banker's bills to the amount shall be forwarded.

Representations of the contumacious conduct of the *Zemindâr* of *Nergûnd* were frequently transmitted [by us,] in the course of last year, to Noor Mahommed Khân, who, no doubt, communicated the same to all the chiefs there, [*Poonâh.*] If a petty Zemindâr, and a subject of our government, like this, may not be punished, how shall our authority be maintained? The justice of this argument was admitted, even by Râo Râsta. Thus the chastisement of this *Zemindâr* became necessary. If he is brought to reason from thence [*id est*, by the Mahrattah chiefs] it will be well; otherwise it will be exterminated.

Let the *Gûmâshteh** of Apâjee Râo receive a monthly stipend of four *pagodas*.

You must not admit the *Brahmens* to a participation in the conduct of any secret negotiation. You and Noor Mahommed Khân [alone] are jointly to transact [all such affairs.]

If the chiefs of that place, forgetting our past favours, should dispatch an army to the assistance of the *Zemindâr* of *Nergûnd*, what will it signify? We have, under the divine blessing, sent a strong force to reduce *Nergûnd*, and are in no fear of its suffering any misfortune from their army.

N.B. A letter, to the same effect as the above, and of the same date, was written to Noor Mahommed Khân (the colleague of Mahommed Ghyâs) with an immaterial addition, respecting some bills of exchange.

OBSERVATIONS.

Mahommed Ghyâs Khân and Noor Mahommed Khân were, at this time, the diplomatic agents of Tippoo Sultan, at *Poonah*. The former of them was, probably, at the head of the mission, since many of the letters are addressed singly to him, and in all of them his name stands first. Noor Mahommed Khân, however, would seem to have resided longest at the Mahratta court, to which, there is reason to believe, he had been originally deputed by Hyder Ali.

The present correspondence commences just at the period when the war of 1785 broke out between the *Sultan* and the Mahrattahs; the latter of whom were, after some time, joined by Nizam Ali Khân, who sent a considerable body of troops to act with their army.

The ostensible, or more immediate cause of the present rupture, is to be traced, on the one hand, to the right which the *Sultan* assumed of chastising a contumacious tributary; and, on the other, to the protection which the Mahratta government thought, or affected to think, it incumbent on them to extend to this offender; who was, perhaps, a feudatory of the Mahrattah empire; in like manner with many other *Zemindârs* and *Polygârs*, who depend, in various shapes, and at the same time, on different superiors, rendering to one *Paishcush*, or tribute, and to another military service.

But it was not merely, or perhaps principally, for the purpose of supporting the *Zemindâr* of *Nergûnd*, that the Mahrattah government took up arms against the *Sultan*. They had claims on him for considerable arrears for tribute, the discharge of which he had hitherto refused or evaded; and, it was, probably, less, with a view of befriending the obnoxious *Zemindâr*, than of enforcing these claims, that they appealed to the sword.

It will be seen in the sequel, that though

* An agent. Apâjee Râo was probably a Mahrattah chief, in the interest of Tippoo Sultan.

the Sultan succeeded in inflicting a signal chastisement on his rebellious tributary, he was, nevertheless, obliged to pay the Mahrattahs a considerable sum of money, not less, according to some accounts, than forty *lacks* of *rupees*.* Whether this was the whole, or only part of the arrears of tribute claimed by them, is unknown to the translator, who has never met with the treaty concluded between the belligerent powers, about the beginning of the year 1787. The *Nizâm* during this war, lost *Adoni*; which however, was restored to him by the peace.

By the *fixed*, or *regulated sum*, spoken of by the *Sultan* in the present letter, he means the *Paishcush*, or tribute, which he was bound by former treaties to pay, to the government of *Poonah*; but which he does not think proper to recognize, or designate, by any term denotive of inferiority, which the word *Paishcush* certainly is. Those who negotiated our first treaty with the court of *Hyderabad* were less nice, since they agreed to pay an annual *Paishcush* to the *Nizâm*: by which concession they virtually, but, no doubt, unconsciously, placed the East India company in the situation of a vassal to that chieftain; the term *Paishcush*, in its restrained sense, and as used in India, signifying *tribute*; and in no case being applied to *presents*, excepting to those of a subject to his lord, or from an inferior to a superior. It might be difficult now, and may be deemed needless, to obtain the suppression of this degrading appellation. The usurpers of this, and similar vain distinctions and marks of pre-eminence,† in proportion as they have lost, in the resolutions of time, the substance, may be more safely indulged in the possession of this shadow of power. There is, happily, no longer any danger of the abuse being extended: this is equally precluded by our increased political consideration throughout India, and by our improved knowledge of its languages and usages. The time is past when the general ignorance that prevailed, in these respects, among the company's servants, placed the interests and the honour of their employers and of the nation, but too much at the mercy of native agents and interpreters. There is only one more remark suggested by the preceding letter. If the *Sultan* be allowed credit for sincerity, when he declares himself ready to pay the arrears due by him to the Mahrattahs, immediately on demand, it will necessarily follow, that the question of tribute was not the principal one with that state, any more than with its ally the *Nizâm*, whom, indeed, it could only remotely concern. Both governments, possibly, thought to oppose some check to the rising power of the *Sultan*, whose ambitious views had begun to develope themselves, in a manner that might well awaken the jealousy, and excite the fears of his neighbours. In this case, it will be easy to account for the Mahrattah's not being satisfied with the *Sultan's* professed readiness to discharge their pecuniary demands, (however sincere they might think him in that respect) but insisting on his relinquishing his designs against *Nergûnd*. On the whole, it seems highly probable, that he would have avoided a war at this time, if he could have done so consistently with the "maintenance of his authority," (as he himself expresses it) or without submitting to the disgrace of being prescribed to by a foreign power. His favourite object, and most ardent desire, was to resume, at the earliest possible moment, hostilities against the English; and though he might think himself equal without the help of the Mahrattahs and Nizâm, to the successful prosecution of that design, yet he would, at least, wish for the neutrality of those powers during its progress. With a view to the undertaking alluded to, he had already resolved upon reverting to his former alliance with the French; and he cherished the hope of being soon enabled, by the renewal of his connexion with that nation, to give vent to his always ill-concealed hatred of their rivals. To this ever predominating bias of his mind, and to his eager anticipation of the period, when the successful termination of his negotiations with France, would put him in a condition to execute his projects against the English, may, perhaps, in a great measure, be ascribed the advantageous peace which he granted to the courts of *Poonah* and *Hyderabad*, at the end of a war in which he certainly gave such proofs of military superiority, as made his enemies very willing to retire from the contest. The reader already knows that his expectations from France, and his hopes of conciliating his neighbours, proved alike fallacious; and that, in the end, he was compelled, prematurely, and single-handed, to commit his fortunes in an unequal struggle with the combined forces of all the powers of the Peninsula.

* The *Sultan* himself in his Memoirs, states the sum at twelve *lacks* of *rupees*.

† Amongst these the modes of address employed by many of the pseudo princes of India, in writing even to the English governors, and other persons in high official situations under the British Government, deserve to be particularly noticed; some of them being such as would not now be tolerated, if attempted to be introduced for the first time. The same advantage was taken of our inexperience in other matters of a ceremonial kind; with regard to many of which I am inclined to think, we do not occupy the station to which we are entitled.

Letter XXXV.—To Râjah Râm Chundur, same date, 29th April.

Your two letters have been received; what you write respecting the excuses made by the manufacturers of the district [under you] for declining to weave the stuffs we require, has excited our astonishment; we therefore direct, that they be compelled, by menaces, to prepare the number of pieces required, with the utmost expedition, and agreeably to the pattern [heretofore] sent. If, notwithstanding your injunctions and menaces, they persist in their false pretexts and disobedience, they must be well flogged.

What you write regarding the affair of the *Hurkârch*,* Râmâ, who has been propagating false reports to the prejudice of the people of *Punganore*,† is understood. Let the said *Hurkârch* be put in irons, and confined; and, after taking security from the bankers of *Punganore*, let them be released, as their further detention would be idle.

OBSERVATIONS.

Revolting as the idea of *flogging* a body of weavers, for being averse to undertake a fabric, with which they were probably unacquainted, or which they might not be able to execute without detriment to their ordinary occupations, must appear to every English reader, we are obliged in fairness to Tippoo Sultan to acknowledge, that similar acts of oppression and violence are, by no means, uncommon, under the native governments of India. Still, however, such acts usually proceed from subordinate officers, or persons exercising, and perhaps abusing, delegated power; and rarely, if ever, distinctly and immediately, as in the instance before us, from the sovereign himself. Thus the evil, generally speaking, is to be traced to the despotic nature of the government; while, in the case under consideration, it may justly be referred, in a great measure, to the personal character of the ruler.

It is impossible not to be struck, in the foregoing letter, by the sudden transition which it exhibits, from flagrant oppression to rigorous justice. Imprisonment and chains are not thought too severe a punishment for calumny, by the man, who in the same breath, as may be said, consigns a numerous class of industrious artisans to the scourge, for refusing to relinquish their accustomed pursuits, in order to administer to his caprice. But such inconsistencies are constantly presenting themselves in the conduct of Tippoo Sultan; whose irregular mind was, at no time, under the influence of any fixed principle, if bigotry, and still more, hatred of the English, be excepted. To humanity of disposition, or to a love of justice, in the abstract, he certainly could lay no claims, and, therefore, in punishing the *Hurkârch* Râmâ as he did, it is much more probable that he was actuated by resentment, at the imposition attempted to be practised upon him by that informer, than by any feeling for the injury which his slander might have done to the objects of it.

Letter LXXXV.—To the same, dated 3rd Dârâcy, or 16th July.

We have learned, by a letter from the Sipahdâr, Mahommed Ali, "that he has carried his approaches to the edge of the ditch; that the walls and batteries on his side are levelled to the ground, and that the ditch only remains to be filled." That, then, is a trifling affair; let the ditch be filled, and *with the consent and concurrence of all*, let the place be stormed and taken. If, however, the garrison will capitulate, it will be well; and [in this case] with the exception of Kâlâ Pundit, the rest may be allowed their lives and arms; but the Pundit's person must be secured. In the event, however, of [your being obliged to proceed to] the assault of the place, *every living creature in it, whether man or woman, old or young, child, dog, cat, or any thing else, must be put to the sword*, with the single exception of Kâlâ Pundit. What more?

OBSERVATIONS.

The sanguinary and ferocious disposition of Tippoo Sultaun is here displayed in the most glaring and odious colours. The spirit of Nadir Shâh appears to breathe through every line of the concluding sentence of this memorable letter. Kâlâ Pundit was, most probably, reserved for some signal punishment, or, perhaps, he was exempted from the general carnage here directed, because his immediate death might have frustrated the Sultan's views to pecuniary indemnification. It is rather extraordinary that this last consideration did not also lead him to make an exception, in his exterminating mandate, in favour of the wealthy merchants and bankers of the place, to secure whose persons he was subsequently extremely anxious.

Letter CXIV.—To Meer Mahommed Sâdik; same date, 11th September.

It has been represented to us, that Owbultia,‡ a *Mûtusuddy* belonging to the

* A servant employed in carrying messages and letters, running before a *palankeen*, and various other services. The term literally signifies a *factotum*.

† The particular persons are specified in the original, but the passage is illegible. They were, probably, the bankers mentioned immediately afterwards.

‡ Name uncertain.

Tosheh-khâneh, is on the point of death, and that his brother-in-law is at *Oussoor*; we therefore write to direct, that you cause guards to be placed over his brother-in-law, and *Gomâshtehs*; and that, having made enquiries respecting his substance* and property, you proceed, by means of scourging, [the parties] to obtain possession of the same. Let the utmost diligence and exertions be employed in this business.

Lutchmun, another *Mûtusuddy* of the *Tosheh-khâneh*, possesses a full knowledge of the particulars of Owbultia's substance, you must therefore make enquiry of him also, and send and secure the goods and property [in question] wherever they may be.

You and others formerly represented to us, that [this man] possessed property to the amount of a *lack* of *pagodas*. Let the same be sought after and discovered, and the whole be brought to the account of the Sircar. What more?

OBSERVATIONS.

It does not appear, from anything contained in this document, that Owbultia was a public defaulter, or stood charged with any malversations; and yet, considering the rigour of the proceedings directed, it is difficult to believe otherwise. There is a pretty plain hint in the concluding paragraph, that Meer Sâdik would be held responsible for the realization of the supposed amount of Owbultia's property. Perhaps, however, this was only meant as a stimulus to the Dewân's exertions in the business.

Meer Mahommed Sâdik, was the *Sultan's Dewân*, and, in that character, presided over the revenue department of Mysore. Europeans commonly considered him as Tippoo's prime minister, but Tippoo's government recognised no such officer. For a curious engagement which the *Sultan* made this person enter into, toward the end of the year 1798, the reader is referred to the Appendix H. Meer Sâdik lost his life in the assault of *Seringapatam*; he was believed by many persons to have been a son of the celebrated Bussy, nor was the uncommon fairness of his complexion the only circumstance that gave weight to the report, of which more particular mention is made in the Appendix.

LETTER CLX.—To Meer Kâzim; same date, 25th November.

You are to buy yearly, and send to the *Amil* of *Mangalore*, a hundred *Utls* of almonds, and thirty *Utls* of pistachionuts.

You have still, [on hand] of former importations, both *Sandal* wood, and black pepper; you will now receive more of each. This stock you must not [immediately] expose to sale; but give out, that you have received our orders to discontinue the sale thereof, [at *Muscat*] and to dispatch it to *Juddah* (where also we have a factory), and that you are, in consequence, about to do so. Having circulated this report, you must keep the goods by you, till the price of them advances twenty-five or thirty *pagodas*, (the *candy*) when you will sell them [without further delay.]

LETTER CXCIV.—To Budrûz Zemân Khân; same date, 4th January.

You must first proceed to *Nelasier*, [*Neelahser*] and encamping there with Leshtia,† make some delay, on pretext of looking after Sooma, the *Tul-Caurrey* man. You will then invite Moonu Kool, who, together with his nephew, went some time ago to visit Leshtia and Rooe Wurm Nâg, once more to come and see you; when you must make prisoners of himself, his nephew, and whatever followers may be with him, and report the same [immediately] to us. If a further force should become necessary, write and send for Urshud Baig and Bunkia,‡ and when the business is settled, let them return to their respective stations. We have sent the requisite orders, on this occasion, to both the above-mentioned officers. You must, *by every possible trick and contrivance*, secure the person of the aforesaid rebel. The above-mentioned officers will remain where they now are till you send for them. If you should be able to do without them,§ let them know it, in order that they may repair to their proper stations.

N. B. The letter to Urshud Baig Khân, referred to in the preceding dispatch, follows next in the manuscript, but is omitted here as superfluous.

LETTER CXCVI.—To Runmust Khân; same date, 5th Jan.

[After acknowledging, with the usual compliments, the receipt of a letter from Runmust Khân, the writer proceeds thus:]

Some time ago, while we happened to be making a progress, slightly attended, for the purpose of inspecting the forts of *Bangalore*, &c. the exciters of sedition in the *Koorg* country, not looking to the [probable] consequences [of such conduct], but agreeably to the nature of the children of selfishness, and of opportunity-watching

* The word which I have translated *substance*, commonly enough denotes subsistence or livelihood; but I do not recollect to have met with it before, in the sense to which it is here used.

† Name uncertain.

‡ Name uncertain.

§ Literally, "to seize the rebel without them."

rebels, conceiving vain hopes from the great distance of our victorious army, raised their heads, one and all, in tumult. Immediately, on our hearing of this circumstance, we proceeded with the utmost speed, and, at once, made prisoners of forty thousand occasion-seeking and sedition-exciting *Koorgs*, who, alarmed at the approach of our victorious army, had slunk into woods, and concealed themselves in lofty mountains, inaccessible even to birds. Then carrying them away from their native country, (the native place of sedition) we raised them to the honour of *Islam*, and incorporated them with our Ahmedy corps. As these happy tidings are calculated, at once, to convey a warning to hypocrites, and to afford delight to friends, [but more especially to] the chiefs of the true believers, the pen of amity has here recited them [for your information].

We now firmly purpose repairing to that quarter, [towards *Kurnool*] and shall accordingly soon arrive there with our victorious forces; when the meeting, which we have so long wished to have with that friend, will be accomplished. Râjah Dhurm Doss, and Khâjeh Lûtfûllah, shall hereafter be dismissed and dispatched to that friend. We trust you will continue, till the period of our interview, to delight and rejoice us by your letters.

OBSERVATIONS.

It will be recollected by the reader, that the *Sultan* had been recently apprized of its being the intention of Runmust Khân, to attempt the recovery of some part of his country, which had been taken possession of by the *Sultan*; the present dispatch, therefore, which is the true boastful style of a Persian *Futah-nâmeh*,* or letter of victory, may be fairly considered as intended to intimidate the person to whom it is addressed; or, in Tippoo's own words, "to convey a warning to him," of what he might expect, if, by resisting the *Sultan's* will, he should compel the latter to pay him a visit. It was, moreover, well calculated to prepare the way for the pecuniary demand which we shall presently see made upon this Patan chief.

The foregoing letter contains the only authentic record of the *Sultan's* recent expedition against the *Koorgs*, that I have hitherto met with; and, if we may give credit to his account of its issue, he would appear to have but too well fulfilled, on this occasion, the threat with which we have seen him dismiss the assembled chiefs of that nation, in the year 1784.

"I have vowed to God," said he, "that if you ever again rise in rebellion, I will make Mussulmans of your whole race, and transplant you all from hence, to some other country." See Observations on Letter 169.

LETTER CCVIII.—To Budrûz Zumân Khân; dated 13th of Yoosufy, 19th of January.

Directing him to crucify the miscreant Moona Kool, and to send for his family, and keep them confined in irons.

If the nephew of Moona Kool should be more than twenty-five years of age, to crucify him also.

Two hundred of the followers of Moona Kool, to be made Ahmedies, and put into the * * * * * *† Risâla, lately dispatched [from hence], and now arrived [at Nugr].

You‡ yourself must also proceed to Nugr, together with the troops under your command, and repairing to the second *Dewân* of *Nugr*, who is [at this time] at Seo-Kullah,§ there make a settlement of your accounts [with him].

OBSERVATIONS.

There is no trace in any of the documents in my possession, of the manner in which the person of the unfortunate Moona Kool, was finally secured, but the instructions given at different times regarding him, make it sufficiently probable that the object was attained by some foul or treacherous means.

LETTER CCCCIX.—To the Dewâns of Calicut; same date, 28th December.

Dissuade Urshud Baig Khân from his vain purpose of repairing to the house of God (*Mecca*). Try at first, as far as you may be able, the effect of fair persuasion; and if this should not succeed, you must, of necessity, confine him. You must, likewise, imprison the courtezan, who has been the cause of this affair.

N. B. Upon Urshud Baig's "coming again to his senses," as it is expressed in the original, he was restored to his office, and the woman in question was released, and "*driven*" from *Calicut*.

* It is customary with the princes of the East, to announce to one another the victories they obtain over their enemies. This is done in letters, which, from the subject of them, are called *Futah-nâmehs*, or letters of victory.

† The name which I have left blank, is in the manuscript, written *Ahmednugr*; but I know of no such place in Tippoo's dominions, and therefore suspect the right reading to have been, "and put them into the *Ahmedy* [corps at] at *Nugr*."

‡ The second person being here employed, what follows is to be considered as an exact transcript of the original dispatch, and not, as in the preceding part, the mere heads of it.

§ Name uncertain.

The foregoing extracts must satisfy the present curiosity of the reader respecting this interesting work; on which, however, before we dismiss it from our hands, we may be permitted to offer one or two general observations.

It exhibits, so far as we are competent to judge, a most accurate and *scrupulously* faithful translation of writings, original in design and style, but obscure, and often self-incomprehensible in allusion. A most extensive knowledge of the language of the writer, which is discoverable in every page of the selection, has enabled the translator to preserve the meaning, character, and spirit of his author, without losing any feature of his originality—and a most intimate acquaintance with the manners and history of surrounding persons and things, to which the letters refer, has qualified him for illustrating, by his own peculiar acquisitions, what else would have been doubtful and dark. He has added, but has not taken any thing from the value of his original. He has followed the *Sultan* with the dignity of a free-man, —not the servility of the slave; he has laid down the principles of what a translation should be, and enforced his principles by his own example; he has left a model for the imitation of future translators, and a study, if we may be allowed the expression, in the frequent exemplifications and illustrations of idiomatic expressions, whereby the less proficient Persian scholar may better understand his authors, and improve his style.

Sketch of the Political History of India, from the introduction of Mr. Pitt's Bill, A. D. 1784, to the present date. By J. Malcolm, lieut.-col. in the Honourable the East India Company's Madras army, resident at Mysore, and late envoy to the Court of Persia. W. Miller.

Though the above title would infer that the author intended that his enquiry should not relate further back than the date of *Mr. Pitt's* bill; yet, in the execution of his design, he has found it necessary, it seems, to add an introductory chapter, by way of induction to his history, giving a concise account of the rise and progress of the affairs of the East India Company in Asia. With this view he traces, incidentally, but sufficiently for his purpose, the first steps of their adventure in 1497, through all the intermediate gradations, to 1784, whence he proposes to pursue his subject more methodically, and at large.

In the outset of his introduction, the author describes generally, the origin and operation of the Company's authority; and afterwards descends to particular facts and circumstances of history, as corroboratory of his general statement. As the latter are familiarly known to most of the readers of the Asiatic Register, we shall refrain from adverting to them here, and content ourselves with transcribing in this place the course and effect of the power of the Company, as shewn in the work before us.

"The great empire," says the author, "which England has established in the East, will be the theme of wonder to succeeding ages. That a small Island in the Atlantic should have conquered, and held the vast continent of India as a subject province, is in itself a fact, which can never be stated without exciting astonishment.

"But the surprise will be increased, when it is added, that this great conquest was made, not by the collective force of the nation, but by a company of merchants, who, originally vested with a charter of exclusive commerce, and with the privilege and right to protect their property, and to retaliate attack, were in a few years hurried, by the enterprise and ambition of their agents; the hostile and rival spirit of the other nations of Europe, and the weakness and perfidy of the princes of Asia, to whom they became, from their encroachments or their riches, an object of jealousy or plunder, into the possession

of royal power, and actually found themselves called upon to act in the character of Sovereigns over extended kingdoms, before they had ceased to be the mercantile directors of petty factories.

"Those who look deep into the causes of great revolutions, and find them, not in the successful issue of the complex schemes of ambitious statesmen, but in the simple operation of natural and obvious causes, will, perhaps discover, that the means by which India was rendered subject to England, (however inadequate they might at first glance appear,) were of all others the best calculated to effect that great object. Force and power could not have approached the shores of India, without meeting with resistance; but to the unpretending merchant every encouragement was offered: and when the spirit with which the early settlers defended their property from spoliation, showed they were as superior in their military as their commercial character, they became more an object of admiration than of jealousy to the principal powers of India; who, in process of time, courted their alliance and aid against each other.

" For the agents of the Company to have refused such aid, was, perhaps, in many cases, impossible; or, at least, would have been dangerous to their immediate security; and by granting it, additional immunities and privileges, calculated to benefit and increase their trade, were often obtained; and thus the desire of promoting the security, and improving the prosperity, of their commercial establishments, first led them to political connections. From that moment, the substance, though not the form, of their government was altered: and they were involved, beyond the power of retreating, in all the complicated relations of a political state. This important change was reluctantly admitted by the managers of the company's concerns in England, as the advantages, which had attended the early commerce with India, made the proprietors of that capital by which it was carried on, view with anxiety and alarm a revolution, which they thought increased their risk, without a prospect of adequate return; they consequently denounced, at every step, that progress, which their agents made to territorial power in India; and, with a view of checking this spirit of aggrandizement, they at last called for the aid of the legislative power of the kingdom, which readily seconded their efforts, and gave the authority of law to their orders. But had those proprietors, or the administration of the government of England, been more fully informed, or had they drawn their conclusions more from plain practical reasoning, combined with a correct view of human nature (as it existed in the country for which they legislated,) than from abstract principles of general policy, they might, perhaps, have been more moderate, and less dogmatical in their efforts to correct the system; and they might have discovered that, though they might regulate, it was a vain attempt to endeavour to stop altogether the career of a state, which was rising rapidly into greatness, under the influence of causes, that were irresistible in their force, and which it was not possible to controul. The truth is, that from the day on which the company's troops marched one mile from their factories, the increase of their territories and their armies became a principle of self-preservation; and, at the end of every one of those numerous contests in which they were involved by the jealousy, avarice, or ambition, of their neighbours, or the rapacity and ambition of their own servants, they were forced to adopt measures for improving their strength; which soon appeared to be the only mode by which they could avert the occurrence of similar danger.

" Such, in a few words, is the history of the progress of the East India company to power in India."

It is supposed, and argued by the author, that the policy of the parent state has not been suited to the rapid progress and success of British influence in the East, or to use his own words—

" The British legislature has hitherto but slowly followed the progress of the power of the company in India. It had legislated for factories on a foreign shore, when that corporation was in the possession of provinces; and when the laws were completed to govern those, it had obtained kingdoms. That the present system of government is inadequate, and the laws, under which it exists, defective, and not calculated for the greatness of the empire, every one acquainted with the subject must acknowledge; and the time probably approaches, when some great change must take place. But, at all events, our interests in India have become at this moment an object of the most serious consideration; and whether the present constitution of government be confirmed or changed, it is of importance to examine all those facts, which can enable us to judge of its merits and defects, as such alone can qualify those, on whom that duty must devolve, to form plans for its future security and improvement.

" What appears the most prominent error in all the laws and regulations which have been passed in England, relative to the political government of India, is, that dogmatical principle on which they proceed, in the endeavour to fix that which is constantly changing. This principle is, perhaps, too natural to those by whom these laws and regulations must be framed, ever to be wholly eradicated. It arises

out of a warm interest in what immediately affects the mother country, and a feeling, which approaches to indifference toward our distant possessions. This produces a continual desire to mould the latter into that shape and character, which will best suit the former; but, unfortunately, an empire is a substance which cannot be shaped and moulded. It is by the laws of nature mutable; and this character, which our empire in the East has in common with all empires in the world, has hitherto, and must always continue to disappoint those expectations, which are formed, of limiting the precise extent of the dominions, or of fixing the exact power of the British government in Asia."

It would seem necessary, in the opinion of the author, from the inference of his preliminary observations, that the legislature should entertain larger notions of the importance of British India, and should adopt a system of government more suitable to the nature of things as they stand; instead of persevering in a policy, applicable to other times, and to circumstances that have long ceased to exist. To aid and assist the legislature in the performance of the task—"It is the object," as the author tells us, "of his work, to afford information to those upon whom this important labour must devolve, and to elucidate (as well as he can) the political principles upon which the government of British India has been conducted, since the introduction of Mr. Pitt's bill in 1784."

In the prosecution of his design, Colonel Malcolm takes a comprehensive view of the successive administrations of the government-general of India, under the Marquis *Cornwallis*, Sir John *Shore*, the Marquis *Wellesley*, and Sir George *Barlow*, noticing the several political engagements and alliances instituted, and interrupted during their several and respective governments—the wars that occurred—the causes and the consequences of them. It would be beyond our province to follow the author in this wide and various range, which embraces much important and most interesting matter for reflection; but it certainly is not foreign to our limited plan, to take a summary notice of the deductions which he has drawn from the events enumerated. He has endeavoured to shew, how successfully we we do not pretend to pronounce, from the effect of the different and contrasted administrations of the several eminent personages named, that a neutral system of policy, even with the most favourable disposition of governors to comport themselves according to its principle, however fair it may sound in theory, is not reducible to action; and that, even if it could be acted on, it is not suited to the state and condition of surrounding circumstances. This is particularly inferred from the conduct of the Marquis *Cornwallis*, who is well known to have entertained a pacific temper towards neighbouring states, so far as it was prudent, or, indeed, practicable to carry it; and who yet, in despite of this his natural disposition, and the instructions of his constituents, could not help involving himself in hostilities, and adding, contrary to the intention of the legislature, to the dominions of the company. And the positions are further enforced by the result, as it is stated, of the government of Sir John *Shore*. Speaking more particularly of the neutral policy, recommended in the legislative declaration, Colonel *Malcolm* thus expresses himself:

"This system, however, while it might have in some degree the effect of promoting wars among other states, did not seem likely to secure the exemption of the nation, by which it was followed, from that evil. It was, in fact, one state withdrawing, as much as circumstances would permit, from any concern in the interests of that commonwealth of nations, among whom it was placed: and that secession not only deprived it of the exercise of all those means by which governments preserve their security, but exposed it to all the dangers of the aggrandizement of a rival state, or the confederacy among numbers against its power; events, which became more probable, from that decrease of fame and estimation, which was the obvious and inevitable result of the policy pursued.

"The merits of this system, however, were tried during the administration of Sir John Shore, who appears to have been uniformly actuated by a sincere and conscientious desire to govern India agreeably to the strict and literal sense of the act of the legislature, and to the wishes of his superiors in England; to the implicit execution of whose orders, his great ability and experience were, on all occasions, most zeal-

ously applied. The result of this experiment, offers an important lesson to those who are entrusted with the administration of British India. It was proved from the events of this administration, that no ground of political advantage could be abandoned, without being instantly occupied by an enemy; and that to resign influence, was not merely to resign power, but to allow that to pass into hands hostile to the British government. The consequence of political inaction was equally obvious. No one measure of importance was taken, except the elevation of Saadut Ally, to the musnud of Oude; which the governor-general states, in express terms, was forced upon his adoption. But this inactive system of policy, so far from attaining its object, which was to preserve affairs upon the footing in which it had found them, had only the effect of making the British government stationary, while all around it advanced; and of exposing it to those dangers, which resulted from the revolutions of its neighbours, while it was even denied the power of adopting its policy to the change of circumstances. The ultimate consequences were such as might have been expected. A period of six years peace, so far from having added to the strength, or improved the security of the British dominions in India, had placed them in a situation of comparative danger. Though the British strength was not lessened, the power and resources of the other states of India had increased. The confidence and attachment of our allies were much shaken, if not destroyed; and the presumption and hostile disposition of the principal native powers in India too clearly showed, that it was to a principle of weakness, or of selfish policy, and not of moderation, that they ascribed the course which had been pursued by the British government."

And again, treating of the same system, in another part of his work, the author proceeds:

"The professed object of this system, is to avoid, by contracting our political relations, that continual embarrassment, to which it is argued, we must otherwise be subject; and all measures pursued are to be conformable to certain general principles, which, like a broad shield, are to save us from every injury: and simplify the whole scheme of our government in India.

"If such a result was really attainable, the task of ruling would become easy, and the whole machine of government might be kept in order by a very moderate share of attention and understanding; but, unfortunately, all experience is against such a conclusion, which is indeed contrary to the nature of man. We must, if we endeavour to fly from those political embarrassments and complex relations, which have been in all ages the conditions of extended power and dominion, always meet with much greater evils than those from which we try to escape. With regard to all general principles of rule, we should recollect, that their value is not in their abstract excellence, but in their seasonable and just application; for it is the great and sole art of government to adapt principles to the continual changes of human affairs, into a shape that suits principle. This observation applies with peculiar force to our empire in India; which, from its foundation, the nature of its government, and the various tribes and nations which it includes, demands more wisdom, and more modification of system in its government, than perhaps any that ever was established in the universe.

"This empire, though raised by the operation of many and various causes, has been chiefly established, and must be constantly maintained, by the sword. But though we must continue to govern as conquerors, it is our duty to make our rule a benefit to mankind: and to carry among those whom we have subdued, the blessings of peace, knowledge, and improvement in all the arts of civilized life. And at that stage which our power in India has attained, we will probably find the accomplishment of such an object easier, and more conducive to our security, than all the wars and contests, in which a selfish and neutral policy can ever involve our neighbours."

The busy period and splendid career of the Marquis *Wellesley's* administration is put in contrast with the quiet and less eventful scenes presented in the view of the governments of Sir John *Shore*, and of Sir G. Barlow; and are spoken of in language, at once expressive of the author's admiration, and his sense of the superiority of the former administration, in its principle and its effect.

Of the active motive, and resulting effect, of the noble Marquis's administration, the author gives the following animated description.

"The great success which attended Lord Wellesley's administration of British India, is, on a general view, calculated to excite astonishment; nor will that be diminished by a nearer contemplation of the manner in which he ruled the large empire committed to his charge. His great mind pervaded the whole; and a portion of his spirit was infused into every agent, whom he employed; his authority was as fully recognized in the remotest part of British India, as in Fort William; all sought his praise; all dreaded his censure; his confidence in those whom he employed was unlimited; and they were urged to exertion

by every motive that can stimulate a good or proud mind to action; he was as eager to applaud, as he was reluctant to condemn those whom he believed conscientious in the discharge of their public duty. It was the habit of his mind to be slow in council, but rapid in action; and he expected the greatest efforts from those he employed in the execution of his measures, whom he always relieved from every species of vexatious counteraction and delay, which could arise from the untimely intrusion of official forms, or the unreasonable pretensions of lesser authorities."

Having examined at some length, and in several distinct chapters, the public acts of the separate administrations, in the manner he had proposed to treat them, and having drawn the conclusions which the author conceived to flow from such acts, he proceeds to recommend the policy, which he considers calculated to cure the supposed defects of the system of government for British India, not as it appears in theory, but as it is seen in actual operation.

The chapter devoted to the latter object, comprises infinite matter, and the most perplexed considerations. It enters, somewhat minutely, into the constitution of the court of directors, and board of controul, of the office of governor-general, and the political principles which should govern our intercourse with the native powers and subjects of India. The examination of these several heads, would occupy more space than our scanty limits allow, we shall, therefore, confine what we have to offer to a single observation, as to the result of the whole, from the impression that the perusal of this part of the work has left on our minds. It would appear that the author has meant to argue, from the premises he supposes to have established, that the system laid down for the government of India, is too complex and involuted, committed to too many organs, and some of these ill adapted to their designed functions; that the contradictory powers, at least in the practice of the court of directors and board of controul, counteract one another; and both of them operate injuriously on the proper discharge of the office of governor-general; that this should be less limited in its authority, should not be exercised in a particular spot, but should have a free range of the Indian territory; in a word, that the government should be more single, the power of the governor more complete, and the responsibility, in consequence, more direct. In all of which results the general reader may agree, if he assents to the premises from which they are drawn; but there may be some, who may not perchance accompany the author, in the full extent of his primary positions, and in the degree of their dissent from them, they may be induced to question his subsequent conclusions. Though we ourselves do not admit the entire premises of the author, we cannot but admire the candour with which they are generally laid down, and the ingenuity with which they are enforced. And with this our impression of the work, we may safely commend it to the perusal, and serious consideration of those, who may be soon called upon to legislate for the future government of this vast empire.

There are some topics, incidentally mixed with the leading part of the work, which are deserving of peculiar notice; such as relate to a recommended melioration of the condition of the children descended from an European parent on one side; the discouragement of a general plan for the introduction of the christian religion into India; to the allowance of a limited and regulated colonization, and to the reformation of the military system, both as regards the East India company's officers, and the private classes, of which the Indian armies are for the most part formed. On the latter division of the subject the author may be regarded as no common, or mean authority, having nearly passed a life, as he informs us, with those, of whose condition he is speaking.

But, however the latter circumstance may qualify the writer to treat the subjects at large, it may in certain particulars be imagined to influence his pen, and to take something from the credit otherwise due to his recommendations. The greater part of the suggested reformation would seem to be

rational and desirable; but there are other portions of it, apparently too visionary and experimental to be received on any single name, however respectable, or on any other less authority than the concurrent, uncontradictory testimony of the general body of officers commanding the Indian army. But this is a test, we may be permitted to say, to which the author himself would most willingly and cheerfully submit it.

Historical Sketches of the South of India, in an attempt to trace the History of Mysore, from the origin of the Hindoo government of that state, to the extinction of the Mahommedan Dynasty, in 1799. By Lieut. Col. Mark Wilkes. Longman, Hurst, Rees, and Orme.

Of this respectable work it is scarcely practicable to give any distinct abstract. The nature and object of it seem sufficiently apparent on the face of the title-page.

In a sensible and well written preface, the author enumerates the various sources from which this history is derived. Of the different materials, of which he became possessed, he has very successfully availed himself.

The numerous and complicated facts which are comprised in the period of Indian transactions, the subject of these Sketches, are well arranged, and expressed with great perspicuity, specimens of which we propose to lay before our readers. But, before we submit these extracts, we shall briefly state, that the present volume embraces the period of several hundred years, presenting as much noticeable and interesting matter, as could possibly be discovered in any like interval of foreign history. — It traces and follows the fluctuating fortune of the Hindoo house of Mysoor, in all its variations, in its rise, progress, declension, and fall. It throws a borrowed light on the direct and passing events which it relates, from surrounding objects, and contemporaneous history, local and literary ; and introduces, whenever the occasion will allow, incidental and collateral circumstances and remarks, wheresoever they may seem to have a tendency to explain the narrative, or the train of reflection resulting from it. These form not the least valuable portion of the sketches before us.

A peculiar chapter is devoted to the consideration of the nature of "landed property," which, though not regularly falling within the immediate scope of the work, is happily introduced, and handled with as much address as if the author had been daily conversant with legal discussions. It is accompanied with observations on the circumstances of landed tenure at the present day, with suggestions for the improvement of it, the result of practical experience. This has been noticed by some as a redundancy ; but we must confess, for ourselves, that it seems so much in its place, that we should now think the work defective without it.

The Sketches of colonel Wilkes, accurately describe the changes in the geographical extent of Mysoor and its dependencies, as well as the revolutions of government to which the territory was subject ; and more especially treat of the introduction and course of the Mohammedan power in these and other neighbouring regions, minutely pursuing its foundation and superstructure. They bring fresh before our vision many eminent personages who have figured in Indian annals ; of some of whom we are disposed to make mention, in the manner and language of the author ; confining our notice, for the present almost to these characters, having already, in this, and a preceding volume of the Register, touched on other subjects, connected

with these Sketches, to which we must confess our general obligations.

The portrait of Canty Reva Narsa Raj appears, from the following extract, to be drawn with an original pencil.

"*Canty Reva Narsa Raj*.

"This person was son of the gallant and generous Betad Cham Raj Wodeyar. The government returned in his person to the elder branch, from which it had been wrested by the deposition of his father, whose martial spirit he inherited, without his careless extravagance, and incapacity for finance.

"An instance is preserved of his chivalrous spirit, which seems to be well authenticated. While living in obscurity in a remote village, during the former reigns, a travelling bramin from Trichinopoly, mentioned in conversation a celebrated champion at that court, who had defeated all antagonists from every part of India, and had now proclaimed a general challenge. Canty Reva, being desirous of seeing this celebrated personage, requested the Bramin to be his guide and companion to Trichinopoly, where, concealing his rank, he presented himself as the antagonist of the challenger; and the broad-sword having been determined as the weapon, he defeated and slew the champion, in presence of the whole court, assembled to witness the contest. The Raja of Trichinopoly was desirous of distinguishing and retaining in his service this remarkable stranger; but he absconded in the night, and returned to his humble habitation, where the incident was soon made public.

"Such was the character of the man whom an usurping minister had the audacity to select for his nominal master.

"On his arrival at Mysoor, where it was still the practice to instal the rajas, the minister ordered that he should be lodged in an exterior apartment: and assigning to him a few personal attendants, announced, in a manner sufficiently intelligible, the condition to which he was destined, by departing on a tour of the neighbouring districts, without going through the form of installing him, or even the decent observance of paying his personal respects. During the tour it was reported to the minister that the raja appeared to be dissatisfied, and would probably attempt to recover his independance:—'Let him take care,' said the minister, negligently, 'and remember that I have not yet installed him.'

"The murder of Immadee Raja, and the facts which have just been stated, constitute the grounds of the conjecture which has been hazarded regarding the condition of the two preceding rajas; and the open and contemptuous arrogance of the minister's demeanour on the present occasion, seems to furnish abundant proof of an absolute usurpation.

"During the absence of the minister, two of the attendants appointed to wait on the raja elect secretly unfolded to him the history of the murder of his predecessor, and offered their services to dispatch the usurper: this was accordingly effected, on the very night subsequent to his arrival at Mysoor, after he had gone through the form of paying a visit of ceremony to the raja.'

"The detail of this transaction has been preserved in several manuscripts. The two attendants (peons or foot-soldiers) scaled the walls of the minister's court-yard after dark, and laid in wait for an opportunity to effect their purpose. Shortly afterwards the minister appeared, preceded by a torch bearer, passing towards a detached apartment. The associates first killed the torch-bearer, and the light happened to be entirely extinguished. 'Who are you?' said the minister. 'Your enemy!' replied one of the peons; and made a blow. The minister, however, closed with him, and being the more powerful man, threw him to the ground, and held him by the throat, in which situation he called out for aid. The night was so very dark that his companion was afraid to strike at random. 'Are you uppermost or undermost?' 'Undermost,' cried the half-strangled Peon, and this information enabled his associate to strike the fatal blow.

"*Canty Reva Narsa Raj* was installed on the following day, and in two days afterwards proceeded to the seat of government at Seringapatam. In the first year of his accession he had to defend the capital of his dominions against a formidable invasion of the forces of the Mohammedan king of Vizegapoor, under a general of reputation, named *Rend Dhoola Khan*,* who besieged Seringapatam; and having effected a practical breach, made a general assault, in which he was repulsed with great slaughter; and not only compelled to raise the siege, but harassed in his retreat† by successive attacks, in which the raja obtained considerable booty.

* The bridegroom of the field of battle. This is the only Mohammedan dynasty that gave Hindovee titles: in general they are exclusively Arabic.

† In the same year we find Rend Dhoola Khan uniting with a multitude of rebellious Wadeyars depending on Bednore, and besieging the rajah of that country in Cowlidroog. The raja bought off the Mohammedan general, who left the Wadeyars to the consequences of the raja's indignation.

"After a number of conquests, which will be stated in the usual manner, Canty Reva Narsa Raj returned in 1654 to Seringapatam, where he instituted a deliberate inquiry into the condition of all his dependants, and subjects of every description. It was his first object to reduce to entire subjection the remnant of refractory Poligars and Wadeyars which still existed; and it may be inferred that he assumed the direct government of the whole of his dominions, from the farther measures which he is recorded to have pursued. He made a detailed and particular scrutiny into the condition of the *gouds* or heads of villages, and principal farmers throughout his dominions, whom he had found to be the most turbulent of all his subjects: and ingeniously attributing their refractory disposition to a purse-proud arrogance, arising from the excessive accumulation of wealth, he determined to apply a very summary and direct remedy, by seizing at once on the supposed source of the evil.

"He accordingly levied on the whole of this description of persons such contributions as, according to the manuscripts, left them only a sufficient capital for the uses of agriculture, and nothing for the purposes of commotion: it does not, however, appear that he ventured to augment the fixed assessment of the ryots.

"He improved and enlarged the fortifications of Seringapatam; and, being enriched by his various foreign conquests and domestic plunder, supplied it with provisions and military stores, in a style of complete equipment, which had hitherto been unknown. He was the first raja of Mysoor who established a mint. The cantyrai hoons* and fanams, called after his name, continued to be the sole national coin until the Mohammedan usurpation; and at this time form a considerable portion of the currency of the country.

"He is also noted as the author of a new and more respectful etiquette at his court, and for having first celebrated, with suitable splendour, the feast of the Mahanoumi, or Dessara; for having presented to the idol Sree Runga a crown of valuable jewels; and for having established munificent endowments for the support of all the principal temples. He is of course the idol of his Brahmin historians, whose system of ethics is not disturbed by any troublesome reflections on the simple transfer of property, by which the fruits of industry are transformed into pious plunder."

A remarkable instance of the force and energy of *Hyder's* mind, is detailed with great spirit in the following passages:

"The rains commenced in June with their usual violence: few strangers escape their influence: and about the month of September the endemic disease had made such havoc on Hyder's constitution, that he was no longer able to transact business in the public dubrar. The servants of the former dynasty considering the opportunity to be favourable for the emancipation of their country, entered into an extensive conspiracy for the assassination of Hyder, and the recovery of the capital. Some obscure suspicions were conveyed to him by a trusty servant: and he directed an investigation to be made by a commission composed of some of his oldest, and, as he conceived, his most trusty civil officers, who happened to be all accomplices in the conspiracy. The report of this investigation was read to Hyder, while reclining on his couch, and shivering in a paroxysm of ague; but, even in this state, his keen perception penetrated the veil which they had attempted to throw over the few facts which were known to him. He dissembled, however, for the present, and detained the commissioners, in feigned consultation, until the hot fit was succeeded by a slight remission; he then arose, and entering the durbar (or hall of business) re-examined the witnesses, and completely discovered the whole plot. He ordered the commissioners to be instantly hanged in his presence, in front of the hall of audience: the requisite arrests followed with rapidity, and before the close of the same day, upwards of three hundred of the chief conspirators were hanging at the different public ways which issued from the city. This done, he retired to rest with the same serenity as if he had only been discussing the ordinary business of the day, and arose on the following morning visibly recovered by the consequences of the unusual exertion to which he had been compelled. Bednore was thenceforward the most tranquil and obedient of all his possessions; but it was from this period that he began those improvements in the organization of his system of police, which afterwards raised it to such horrible perfection."

And again,

"Long before the rains had abated on the hills, *Madoo Row* passed considerable detachments over the river Toombuddra, and employed himself in reducing the whole of the eastern dependencies of Bednore, and the adjacent parts of Mysoor: while Hyder's army, wretched, spiritless, and sickly, from the inevitable

* The coin which Europeans call a *pagoda*.

consequences of its situation, looked with apathy or aversion to the renewal of active operations. About the beginning of the year 1765, the weather began to admit an approach to the woods of Anawutty, and Madoo Row opened the campaign with the employment of a numerous corps of pioneers, which he had organized and equipped during the rains. His object was to cut, in the first instance, a wide opening through the woods to the southward of Hyder's entrenched camp; and progressively to form a line of circumvallation, by felling the gigantic forests around it. Hyder, perceiving the inevitable destruction which awaited him if he should permit his communication with Bednore to be cut off, immediately abandoned his entrenchments, and commenced his retreat. The close and vigorous pursuit of the enemy necessarily impeded the celerity of his movements, and compelled him frequently to halt his whole force to sustain their attacks on his rear-guard. On the third day of these slow and retrograde movements, over ground, comparatively open, afforded to Madoo Row the opportunity of moving a column between the army of Hyder and the point on which he was retreating, and thus forcing him to a general action. It is admitted by all who shared in the contest of this day, that although the dispositions of Hyder were respectable, the conduct of his troops was destitute of firmness and spirit; and that the action terminated in a disorderly rout in which he lost, in killed alone, three thousand horse, and double that number of infantry; the shattered remains of his troops escaping in dismay to the depth of the woods. The despondency of the army was communicated to the garrisons: the intermediate posts of Eekairee, Anantpoor, and Compree, made but a feeble resistance; and Hyder, before the end of of January, was reduced to occupy those lines surrounding Bednore, which have been formerly described.

"In approaching this situation, he began for the first time to reflect that the means by which he had himself achieved the conquest of this capital, were also open to his enemies; that woods, althougn a protection to men individually animated in their defence, are equivalent to the concealment of night, for troops who are not forward in the performance of their duty:* and that he had made the worst possible selection for the capital of an empire. Before he assumed this position, his family was dispatched by a route through the woods to Seringapatam, and detachments with the treasure successively followed. In the mean time, he had made private advances for negotiation, through the medium of Ragonaut Row,† the uncle of Madoo Row, which terminated in an adjustment of extreme moderation, considering the desperate circumstances in which Hyder was placed.

"1st. He engaged to restore all the districts and places which he had wrested from Morari Row.

"2nd. To relinquish all claims on Abdul-Hekeem Khan, and the country of Savanoor.

"3rd. To pay thirty-two lacs of rupees, on receipt of which, Maddoo Row engaged to retire, and did actually commence his march on the day after the payment was made, viz. about the end of February, 1765.

"Hyder's occupation of Sera, appears to have been tacitly admitted in this negotiation, and all discussions relative to the Poligars of Chittledroog, Raidroog, Harponelly, &c. seem to have been studiously avoided by both parties. Madoo Row had other contributions to levy during the open season from February to June; and by a proper understanding with these Poligars, and with Morari Row, he considered the recovery of the posts, wrested from the latter, to furnish the certain means of regaining Sera, and the countries to the South East of that capital, whenever he should find leisure to repeat his visit. While Hyder, from an opposite consideration of the very same reasons, determined to evade these retrocessions altogether.

"During this unfavourable aspect of Hyder's affairs to the West, the whole of his recent acquisitions to the East were in a flame of rebellion. His brother-in-law, Meer Ali Reza (usually called Meer Saheb) was therefore sent with a respectable force to Sera, and directed, after the re-establishment of Hyder's authority in that quarter, to co-operate with the corps at Bangalore, Deonhully, Ooscotta, and the two Balipoors, which had for several months been compelled by a general insurrection of the military population of those countries, to adopt a cautious and defensive

* Neither Hyder nor Tippoo, after this period, ever attempted to occupy a jungle (wood), although many opportunities occurred when they might (if not diffident of their troops) have done so with infinite advantage.

† Naroo Shenker was the person sent by Ragonaut Row to Hyder for the final adjustment of the terms; and among them were without question some secret articles which were the foundation of that good understanding which ever afterwards subsisted between Hyder and Ragonaut Row.

plan of operation. These insurrections were quelled without material difficulty, and the Poligar of little Balipoor being at length reduced to extremity, from the want of supplies on the rock of Nundidroog, surrendered, on one of those equivocal capitulations for personal honor and security, which are always interpreted according to the convenience of the conqueror. In the present instance, the Poligar with his family was sent to Bangalore, and from thence to perpetual imprisonment, in the distant fort of Coilmootoor (Coimbetore).

"Another corps under Fuzzul Oolla Khan, was, in the mean while, employed in restoring order, and levying revenue and contributions farther to the South East; for the unprosperous aspect of Hyder's late situation, had rendered necessary the presence of troops in every part of his dominions. These reverses appear, however, to have made but a temporary impression on the mind of this extraordinary man. His enterprising spirit, and restless activity, seem on all occasions to have converted unfavourable events into lessons of future conquests; and now impelled him to contemplate the condition of his southern possessions on the Western coast, and of the contiguous province of Malabar."

The volume thus concludes:

"Whether the peace of 1763, which delivered the English Company from serious impediments to the prosecution of their commercial concerns, left them also free to abstain from views of political aggrandizement, is a question which applies with the same force to every subsequent period of the British history in India, as to the short and important interval from 1763 to 1765, which placed the revenues of Bengal at the uncontrolled disposal of the English Company. To generalize and resolve this difficult and important question, is, in effect, to determine whether human affairs can be rendered stationary by human wisdom.

"The wisdom and virtue of political moderation, and the inexpediency and injustice of aggressive wars, are among those propositions familiarly denominated *truisms*, which more frequently pass through the ear than the understanding, and extend themselves over so large a surface as scarcely to be any where distinctly tangible. Nature has erected no visible boundaries to mark the proper extent of political power; and moderation, that word of amiable sound, which changes its meaning in the concerns of private life at every step, from one hundred, to one hundred thousand, is as perfect a Proteus in the political vocabulary, while in the very act of applying its ever varying form, ambition will not fail to whisper, that the fundamental principles and proportions which regulate a smaller scale, remain precisely the same in the construction of a larger. We can scarcely conceive that the great and enlightened statesman who directed the affairs of Bengal in 1765, and seized, with his characteristic penetration and promptitude, the combination of circumstances, which, without previous design, led to an aggrandizement of unexampled rapidity and extent, intended to arraign the past by condemning its application to the future; nor can we, in justice to his memory, suppose, that in retiring from the scene of his past glory, and deprecating an extension of the British dominions, he contemplated any other than the existing condition of his own and the surrounding states, or meant to inculcate the expediency of the same measures under every possible variation of circumstances. To determine the evanescent line which separates moderation from ambition, would seem to be a problem beyond the reach of general rules, and to require a consideration of the facts of each individual case, for its solution. The lights to guide our opinion on a question which appears simple to those only who confine their examination to its surface, must therefore be derived from a close attention to the progress of events. Without presuming to instruct the reader, the means of forming or revising his own judgment, will be found in the series of more tardy steps, which, from the year 1765, to 1799, tended with considerable fluctuation to a similar aggrandizement of the English power, in the South of India. The principal events of these thirty-four years, belong to the direct scope of our future narrative; and if precarious health should admit, and public opinion should not discourage the design, an attempt shall be made to relate them with fidelity."

From the above extracts from this interesting history, we have little doubt but that all persons who have any curiosity to indulge respecting the affairs of this part of India, will be desirous of perusing more of it, and to the work itself, we therefore with confidence beg leave to refer them.

The author, with a modesty inseparable from genius, has expressed his intention of pursuing or abandoning his labour, in a second effort, according to the reception of the volume under review—the success of which, we would suppose, from our own impression, must have sufficiently determined his conduct. If any thing that we could urge might be imagined to have any avail towards the completion of the original design, we would cheerfully add our recommendation to the encouragement of the general voice.

An Account of the Kingdom of Nepaul, being the substance of observations made during a mission to that country, in the year 1793. By Col. Kirkpatrick. Miller. 1811.

The nature of the mission, mentioned in the title, was explained in the last volume of the Asiatic Register.

This publication is from the same pen that has presented us with the letters of Tippoo Sultan, in an English dress, noticed in a preceding article. It is of a different character, as the title indicates, from the former work, which purports to be nothing more than an humble translation, admitting not any display of original genius, or any other more conspicuous qualities, than patient labour and fidelity; whereas, the volume under our review comprises much new and interesting information, requiring the exercise of ingenuity in the arrangement, and skill in the application. It leads the reader through a tract very partially explored, and, of consequence, little illustrated by the result of the researches of the curious or the learned. But the information, which it conveys, is given, not in the spirit or profession of digested history, but as an unassuming account of a few historical facts, and local circumstances, hastily collected in the first instance, during a short personal residence in the country described, and as hastily committed subsequently to paper, with an intention, which was accidentally defeated, of being more carefully weighed and revised, at an after period, and more methodically arranged for the public eye. The events, that prevented the accomplishment of the design of the author, are explained in the preface, as are all the other circumstances attendant on the publication, which would afford an apology, if such were necessary, for more imperfections than are observable in the plan or execution of this instructive and entertaining narrative.

Whatever the advantage that might have been attained from a different modification of the materials of the volume, it would have endangered and impaired the air of originality and authenticity, which pervades every page of the account before us; so that what it might have gained in point of style, it might, if differently moulded, have lost in impression and interest.

The modest and candid office of the preface is to advertise the reader what he is to look for in the pages which he is about to open; and if he afterwards expect too much, he must owe his disappointment in the result, if he shall be disappointed, more to the unreasonableness of his own expectations, than to any rash and inconsiderate, and unperformed obligation of the publisher or his author. The latter, indeed, has exhibited a most anxious care to explain the smallness, rather than the defectiveness, of the stores, in his own possession and power, for the fulfilment of what he had in view, and has shewn how he meant to have supplied what he knew to be wanting, if it had been so allowed to him, from external aid; and this circumstance of itself should remove the very semblance of a suspicion, if any could be illiberally entertained, that the work was intended for a more perfect history, than it outwardly professes to be, or that it holds out a greater promise, than the author ever aimed to perform.

After this account of the moderated view of the author, we shall give, according to our usual method, a summary of the contents of his work.

The first chapter notices the author's entrance into the country, which he purposed to penetrate, by crossing the *Bhagmutty* river, at the point where it serves as a natural boundary to the kingdom of Nepaul, and the East India company's territories, between *Munniary* and *Hutticol*, so called in the Indian maps. He forded the river, it appears, at *Servia*, a small village, to which place the *Bhagmutty* is navigable in the rainy season; shap-

ing a course for *Kurrurbunna*, a frontier post, and thence pursuing his way to *Barch* or *Bharragharry*, where he is met by an escort of Nepaul guards. He then passes to *Soophye*, having crossed the *Jumna* twice in the road, and thence enters the great forest, which he particularly describes, and the course of his route, to *Jhuirjhoory*, whither he next proceeds. This forest produces a vast variety of trees, among which the *Saul*, the *Sisso*, the *Setti-saul*, the *Phullamikhd* (or iron wood) the *Khalik nt* a sort of blackwood, the *Sijh*, the *Bhurra*, the *Sumni* and the *Mûlta*. The sale of these valuable woods is said to be neglected by the government of Nepaul, as is also another object of traffic, the elephant, which is found in numbers in the forest, and which also abounds with the rhinoceros and the tiger. But the elephants are stated by colonel *Kirkpatrick*, to be so numerous and so bold, as often to possess the passages of the forest, and to dispute or impede the way of the traveller: and he mentions the circumstance of a large herd having assaulted the camp of the Nepaul deputies, on their way to Patna. The manner of catching this noble animal, which is different here from the method generally used in other places, is somewhat minutely explained.

From *Jhuirjhorry*, the route of the author lay through the *Cheeriaghati* pass, and the intermediate way, as well as the surface and peculiarities of the country, are accurately noted and described.

"From the summit of the Cheeriaghati," so says the author; "we had a noble view of the Muckwarpore hills, which rose before us to a considerable elevation. The Cheeriaghati range is no where very high, though I am inclined to think it rises somewhat, as it stretches towards the Kousi, which marks its eastern limit, as the Gunduck does its western one. It does not, throughout this extent, every where bear the same name. Its elevation where we crossed it, where it is properly called Cheeriaghati, would appear, according to the indications of the barometer, to be about 480 yards above the level of Hazipoor."

From this height the author descends to the valley of *Muckwarpore*, which yields abundance and variety of rice, and enjoys an immunity, not common in these, or many other eastern regions, an exemption from taxation; which is accounted for, by political notions, connecting themselves with the local position, and the history of the people.

Hence the author departs for *Hettowra*, the extreme point to which the reader is conducted in the present chapter; which terminates with a description of the *Râputa* or Rapti river, on the banks of which the town stands. The following may serve as a specimen of the colonel's style, and talent of description.

"The Rapute or Rapti issues from a mountain to the eastward of Chusapany, and separated from it only by a narrow bottom or glen. After passing Hettowra, where its bed is of a considerable breadth, it pursues a westerly course till it reaches the Gunduck, into which it discharges itself near Koombia-Ghurry, or about fifteen miles to the north of Samaisir. There is another river of the same name, which passes under Garuckpore, and disembogues into the Dewah. The Rapti of Hettowra, though laid down in the map of Hindoostan, is not named, and might there be mistaken for the principal branch of the Gunduck."

The *second* chapter presents a different route from *Segouly* to *Hettowra*, from that immediately pursued by the colonel and the gentlemen of his mission, and which was traversed, as it appears, by colonel Kirkpatrick on his return to the province of Bengal; through which we are not now disposed to accompany him, being anxious at present, to attend him in his further progress. We shall merely stop to notice, that in this part of the work is introduced the mode of travelling in this country, and more particularly the carriage of goods by the means of *hill porters*. Of this extraordinary tribe the author gives the subjoined account.

"No sort of baggage or merchandize being transportable beyond Hettowra, except on the shoulders of hill-porters, the price of their labour has been regulated by the government. From Goolpussra, the trip to Khatmanda is from 3¼ to 3½, from Hettowra 1¼ to 1½ Nepaul rupees, each man, who ordinarily carries, either in a Dhoha (or hamper,) or otherwise in a bale, a weight equal to eighteen Dharnis, or

about forty-five seers, exclusive of his own provisions. The rates, however, are in some measure governed by the season of the year, being higher in the warm than in the cold weather.* These porters are, for the most part, of the Japoo and Douja tribes of Newars, though there are not a few Bhantias, or Tibetians, among them; but these latter rarely descend into the Turryani, the climate of which they dread still more than the Newars, whom no offers, nevertheless, can tempt to pass beyond Hettowra, after the middle of April. Travellers, too, especially women, are very often conveyed over the mountains in Dhohas, which are usually made of bamboos, somewhat of the form of an inverted truncated cone. The carriages employed instead of Palanquins, are a sort of hammock, nearly resembling those used at Madeira. They consist of a Durwar, or cotton sack, slung upon a pole, made for the most part of the juggur-wood, which is a species of palm differing little from the khujhoor of Bengal. From four to eight bearers are assigned to each, two or four (according to the weight of the person in it) being under the pole together. When four are necessary, they usually fix a stick horizontally across each extremity of the main pole, one man supporting each end of the two cross sticks. These bearers receive for the trip, whether from Goolpussra or Hettowra, to Khatmanda, at the same rate as the porters, and are for the most part of the same tribes. Persons of a certain rank have suitable establishments of Durwars, or hammocks, without, however, regularly maintaining bearers for the carriage of them, it being among the obligations of the tenants of jaghires and other landed estates, to perform this service occasionally for the proprietor.† This hammock might easily be rendered a much more commodious vehicle than we found it to be; the addition of a light wooden frame, for the purpose of spreading the sack, and keeping it a convenient breadth, would leave nothing more to be desired by the traveller, than some contrivance for defending him from the occasional inclemencies of the weather, at a less price than the deprivations of the delightful prospects constantly claiming his attention."

Here are also enumerated the mineral and vegetable productions of Nepaul, and the method of cultivation and agriculture, with other interesting particulars.

The author, in the succeeding chapter, describes the road from *Hettowra*, which, immediately after quitting the former place, runs through the bed of the *Rapti*—

"traversing one or other of the irregular and rugged banks that enclose it, but occasionally lying through the midst of its channel, which is uninterruptedly strewed with huge fragments of rocks sent from the craggy precipices, between which this river must rush with astonishing impetuosity, during the autumnal rains."

The difficulty and inconvenience of passing along the margin of the stream, and the slippery bottom of such a river, may be easily conceived. The author informs us, that—

"The fordable passages of the Rapti, are called Junghars, at which there are less than twenty-four between *Hettowra* and *Dhokaphede*, (the next halting place) at the foot of which this river passes, just after rushing from the bosom of the mountain whence it has its rise; it is of course but an inconsiderable stream at this place."

Dhokaphede is a hill, signifying *Gate*-hill, and deriving its name from its local peculiarity, from the great straightness of the Pass leading over it. The author winds along the side of the hill, through the Pass to *Bheemphede*, and thence to *Cheesapany*,—remarkable for the *coldness* of its *water*, whence it receives its name. Col. Kirkpatrick made an experiment of its property, by immersing in it Fahrenheit's thermometer for about three minutes, when the mercury sunk from 65 to 51 degrees; on another experiment, nearer the source of the river, the mercury presently sunk, on the thermometer being a second time plunged in, from 67 to 48 degrees. There is a fort on the summit of the latter mountain, which it is extremely difficult to climb, not only from the steepness of the ascent, but from the obstacles on the way. The strength of the fortress, and its defence, are examined and noticed. It is commanded, not as strong places of this sort usually are, by an *Omrah*, but by

* These rates are also partly regulated by the weight of the burthen agreed to be carried; some porters, especially those of Chitlong, very commonly transporting from [illegible] to 24 Dharnis.

† The bearers are sometimes engaged by the day, when they receive two annas per man, besides their victuals, which are served out to them three times a day.

an officer appointed immediately by the Soubah. Of the former order of personages, we have next a detailed account.

At *Cheesapany*, there is a Custom-house, the only one, besides *Seedli*, at which duties are collected on merchandize passing from the company's and vizier's territories. The party hence ascend to the Pass of the latter name, at no less an elevation above the level of *Bheemphede*, than 780 yards. The Pass is estimated to be 120 yards higher than the first already mentioned. Col. *Kirkpatrick* mounted the Peak, still towering above this height, for the purpose of viewing the expanded landscape below; but when he arrived at the top, it was unfortunately enveloped by one of those thick mists (called here *Too-âl*) which always overhang this elevated tract, except during the periodical rains, or occasional showers. After lamenting the disappointment, he adds,—

"These vapours, however, did not prevent our observing, in the night, the numerous lights, and extensive conflagrations which, illuminating the sides and summits of the surrounding hills, constituted a most picturesque sight, some of the former seeming, from their immense height, like so many stars, and, in fact, not easily distinguished at first from those luminaries; and the latter presenting the image of streams of fire, rushing from the eminences into the valleys below. This last appearance was occasioned by the burning of the grass and underwood on the sides of the mountains intended to be cultivated, a practice very common in the low, as well as in the high lands, from an idea that the soil is at once cleared and fertilized by the operation."

He now descends by the north side of the *Cheesapany*, and crosses a rapid river at its foot, (*Tambeh-kan*) on the banks of which there is a town of the same name, situate in a dreary and cold glen, subject to continual and turbulent gusts of winds. The road hence to the hill of *Ekdunta*, as in the passage to the other heights, lays through the bed of the river, and is traced with minuteness, which we are not permitted to imitate. We shall state, that in this, as in all other instances of topographical illustration, the author's endeavour is to impress on the reader a lively and faithful representation of the face of the country, not to evince his own descriptive powers, but evidently with a higher and more laudable intention, to direct the future traveller on his way.

From *Tambeh-kan* the author follows the route of *Markhoo*, and having passed through that village, begins to ascend the *Ekdunta*, and having passed along its rugged and dangerous sides, descends again into the valley, the general scenery of which might be compared, as colonel K. tells us, with the appearance of many a beautiful spot in England; a spot to which the eye of the traveller involuntarily turns, whatever may be the distance from it, and whatever the beauties presented around him, as if by natural enchantment.

The reader is next conducted to *Chitlong*, or little Nepaul; of the history and revolutions of which the author furnishes us with an account.

The direct road from this to *Khatmanda*, lays over the mount *Chandraghiri*; but the colonel pursued a somewhat circuitous route, at the north foot of the mountain, to *Thankote*, distant about six road miles from Khatmanda.

There is a digression here to trace a second route, with its halting places, and other more interesting particularities to the same point, through which we cannot, for reasons before explained, accompany our author.

The fourth chapter is devoted to several collateral considerations, not immediately related with the progress of the journey, but intimately connected with the object of it, such as the nature of the division and tenure of lands, measures, and weights, cultivation of the soil, the classes of peasantry, and the conditions of military service.

The ensuing chapter includes all that was worthy of note between the valley of *Doona*, to *Khatmanda*, the capital of Nepaul; the most remarkable of which is the valley, temple, and town of *Noakote*, the favourite residence of the regent Behadur Shah. It appears from the description to be

a commanding station, and memorable for military exploits.

There are also recounted in this chapter some religious customs of the people, singular and curious; to which is added, some account of natural productions.

The author in the sixth chapter speaks of the valley of Nepaul, of which he is most particular and happy in the description. Among other things he dwells on its picturesque beauties, its cities, its towns, its temples, its extent, and general properties. These are brought more present to the eye and imagination of the reader by several well executed and valuable prints.

In page 183, he gives the following outline of this celebrated spot:

"The valley of Nepaul is nearly of an oval figure; its greatest extent is from north to south, in which direction it may be computed at twelve horizontal miles. It stretches from east to west about nine miles, and its circuit is roughly estimated by the inhabitants at twenty-five coss, or from forty to fifty miles. It is bounded on the north and south by very stupendous mountains, near the foot of which rise several of those humbler eminences called collines in Switzerland; indeed, the bottom of the valley, besides being in general extremely uneven, and intersected by deep ravines, occasioned by autumnal inundations, is speckled throughout at various distances with similar little hills. To the east and west the enclosing mountains are much less lofty, the immediate head of the valley to the westward being formed principally by a low steep ridge covered with brush wood, and anciently called Mazoor, but at present, most commonly Naga Arjoon, from the name of an idol for which it is famous. This ridge passes [illegible] behind Sumbhoo-nath, and itself [illegible] by a more considerable one named [illegible]hoak, of which some mention has already been made in describing the valley of Doona, and regarding which, I have nothing further to add, than that it is said to contain a lake strongly impregnated with mineral salt, and celebrated under the name of Indra-pokhra. To the eastward, the most remarkable hills are those of [illegible]uchoak and Mahabut or Mahadeo-[illegible]; but they by no means reach the elevation either of Phalchoak (which is the most towering of the summits that line the southern confine of the valley) or of Sheopoori, which constitutes its colossal barrier to the northward, and is unquestionably by far the highest of all the mountains that encircle it. The other chief links of this superb chain are mount Kukunni, which stretches westerly from Sheopoori, being united to Nagâ-Arjoon by mount Bheerbundy, and Chumpadaibi, which, with one or two more inferior peaks, complete the girdle by joining Chrandraghiri to Phalchoak.

The author closes this chapter with the following remark:

"Having in the preceding pages illustrated, as well as I could, the particular topography of the tract actually traversed by us in our route, I shall now proceed to offer a few brief observations on the country of Nepaul in general, which will necessarily, however, be principally confined to that part of it properly so called, and strictly comprehending no more than the valley just described. I shall afterwards finally close the present memoir, with as accurate an account of the boundaries, extent, and subdivisions of the Goorkali territories collectively, as the scanty information I have been able to obtain on the subject, will admit of."

The author commences the laborious task, thus voluntarily prescribed to himself, in the next chapter, and concludes it in the succeeding division of his work. In these he describes the general face of the country, with its metallic, mineral, animal, and vegetable productions; in almost every one of which natural products we are directed to some new appearance or singularity, either important in itself, or rendered so by the relation. But it would exceed our boundary to notice the several peculiarities.

As the range of the valley includes such a variety of regions and of climate, we might expect, and are not disappointed in the event, to find within it the general appearances and productions of similar countries. We have by the simple process of ascending the hills, and descending in turn, into the valley, almost the whole successions of climate, that are to be enjoyed in Europe, and in Asia; each offering to us, the fruits and flowers of a correspondent region. To the oranges, pine-apples, and guavas of Bengal, there is an accession of European produce, in the peach, the strawberry, the raspberry, the mulberry, and the walnut.

After a short history of the soil and

climate, we are presented with an account of the population and different classes of the inhabitants; their customs, religion, and manners; their government, their laws, their civil and military institutions, their sciences and arts; and, lastly, their general history. It would be beyond our province to examine each of these subjects separately, as such an enquiry would carry us far beyond our ordinary limits. We must confine ourselves, in what we have to add, principally to the description of the inhabitants, whom the author divides into two classes. But to use his own words—

"The inhabitants consist principally of the two superior classes of Hindoos (or Brahmins and Chetrees with their various subdivisions), of Newars, of Dhenwars, of Mhanjees, of Bhootias, and of Bhanrâs. The former of these, who compose the army of the state, and engross all situations of trust, whether civil or military, are found dispersed promiscuously throughout the country; the Newars are confined almost to the valley of Nepaul, the Dhenwars and Mhanjees are the husbandmen and fishers of the western districts; and the Bhootias, though some families of them are planted in the lower lands, occupy, generally speaking, such parts of the Kuchâr as are included in the Nepaul territories. With respect to the Bhanrâs, they have already been mentioned, as being a sort of separatists, from the Newars; they are supposed to amount to about five thousand; they shave their heads like the Bhootias, observe many of the religious rites, as well as civil customs, of these idolaters, in a dialect of whose language they are also said to preserve their sacred writings. To the eastward again, some districts of the Nepaul dominions are inhabited by tribes, such as the Limbooas, Nuggerkootees, and others of whom we know at this time little more than the names.

"The Newars are divided into several casts or orders, most of which derive their origin, like those among the more ancient Hindoos, from a primitive classification, according to trades and occupations. I reserve an enumeration of these, as well as a full account of the history, religion, government, customs, and manners of the Newars, for a future period, when my information on these points shall be more complete and satisfactory than it is at present.

"Between the Newars, however, and the other Hindoo inhabitants of Nepaul, there subsists, as well in character, customs, manners, and features, as in religious rites and language, very essential differences, all of them abundantly proving that they are an insulated race of men, whose origin is not to be traced to any of the nations immediately surrounding them. They are a peaceable, industrious, and even ingenious people, very much attached to the superstition they profess, and tolerably reconciled to the chains imposed on them by their Goorkhali conquerors, although these have not hitherto condescended to conciliate them by the means which their former sovereigns, who were Rajepoots of the Soorej Bunsi race, adopted, and who, among other compliances with the usages of the Newars, made no scruple, it seems, of feeding on the flesh of buffaloes."

On the religion of Nepaul, the author in another place generally expresses himself.

"With regard to the popular religion of Nepaul in general, seeing that it differs nothing from the Hinduism established in Bengal and other parts of India, excepting so far as the secluded nature of the country may have conduced to preserve it in a state of superior orthodoxy and purity, it would be altogether superfluous to enter into any details concerning it. I shall, therefore, content myself with naming here the temples of most consideration in the valley of Nepaul, and with subjoining an account of the most remarkable festivals annually celebrated by its inhabitants."

The festivals are then particularized.

Of the mode or genius of the government, col. Kirkpatrick summarily observes.

"The genius of a government unac-quainted alike with the positive and implie[d] restraints imposed by a precise, not to sa[y] immutable law or constitution, and takin[g] its colour, for the most part, from th[e] character and temporary views of th[e] ruling individual, must necessarily be too fugitive a nature to admit of any de[li]neation equally applicable to all perio[ds] and circumstances. Of this unsettled ki[nd] is the government not only of Nepaul, b[ut] perhaps, of all the Asiatic countries. [It] is formally, and in a great degree esse[n]tially despotic; but its despotism is, [on] the one hand, modified, and in some me[a]sure meliorated, by certain observanc[es] enjoined by immemorial usage, and not [to] be disregarded with impunity even by t[he] most powerful prince, while, on the oth[er,] it is controlled by the active influen[ce] enjoyed, and occasionally exerted by [the] aristocratic order already mention[ed] under the appellation of *Thargurs.*"

Of the latter privileged cast[e of] nobles, as well as the military es[ta]blishment of Nepaul, we have giv[en] some account from page 443 to 4[..] in the last volume of the Asia[tic]

Register, with a reference to which we must conclude our present notice.

From the foregoing sketch of this interesting work, it may be perceived, that it embraces very various information, collected, as it appears, with great industry, and with acute and penetrating observation, during a short interval, as we are told, of a few weeks residence in a strange country, hitherto little known, and not at all described, except partially and incidentally in the reports of religious missionaries, or the slight local notices of geographers. From this circumstance, the publisher would appear to have fallen into a natural, and not inexcusable error, exclusively his own, in inadvertently concluding, and describing Nepaul in his early advertisements of this work, as a country hardly known even by name, and as almost a blank in the maps of India; an inadvertency which has been too harshly and severely handled by a critic, who, in the indiscriminate zeal of office, has let the lash in his hand alike descend on the innocent and the faulty, on the author, and his supposed offending publisher. A slight and superficial view of the preface might have induced such a conclusion, as has been noticed, on the mind of the latter; which, though not exactly true to the letter, would not seem extravagant or very remote, indeed, from the truth, in spirit, or in import. But whatever might have been the inducement of the publisher, so to characterise the work, it was the furthest from the intention of the author, which is every where apparent in his writings, to raise any extraordinary expectation in the reader or the public. He seems, from the beginning, to have regarded what he had gleaned, with a difficulty not very common, and with a success equally as rare, not in any other light than as notes for a history, to be finished at future leisure, or to be perfected, on after contemplation by other hands, which subsequently became incapable of the task. These notes passed, by an accident explained, in an unrevised state into the hands of the bookseller, and were published by him, as we understand, without any communion with, and even the privity of the author. If the work, under these circumstances, had been less perfect than it appears to be, it would have been entitled to a more liberal reception than it has met in the instance alluded to. It must be viewed, as it was intended, as an unfinished piece—of bold design and colouring, with all the strong and rougher touches about it of original genius, not as yet softened down by a more laborious process and polish. If it be so estimated, the eye must be over nice and critical indeed, that does not see much to admire, or that can discover any blemishes in it that might not have been happily removed by the corrective pencil of its author.

Specimens of Arabian Poetry, from the earliest times to the extinction of the Khaliphat, with some account of the authors, by J. D. Carlyle, B. D. Second Edition. Cadell and Davies.

The selection, under this simple and unassuming title, is made from the Arabian historians, and consists as well of the original compositions in Arabic, as a poetical version of them in English; which latter is preceded by a notice of the translator, communicating a few anecdotes of the author, and an account of the occasion of the several compositions. The detached pieces, composing the present volume, have been chosen, for the purpose of shewing the diversity of metre, and the various kinds of Arabian poetry.

Simplicity is the chief recommendation of these productions, and is as the translator tells us, the great characteristic of Arabian poetry, in the

most flourishing periods of literature, during the splendour of the Khaliphat. The specimens submitted in the present volume, abundantly attest for the truth and accuracy of the observation.

Mr. *Carlyle* has added a short historical account of the progress of literature, and more particularly of Arabian poetry, the properties and peculiarities of which he traces with critical skill and taste. It is to be lamented, that he has contented himself with giving us a sketch, but a finished sketch, when he seems so fully competent to have presented us with a full and perfect history. But he designed not, further than he has executed : and we must be thankful for what he has been pleased to grant.

It would be an useless attempt to point out the beauties of the different specimens before us, since they are too striking and too singular to escape the observation even of the most common and inattentive reader. But it may not be superfluous, to give one or two instances of the manner in which the translator has acquitted himself of his voluntary and pleasing task, which has rendered, by a very unusual felicity, the work of adoption the apparent result of original genius and invention.

It has already been mentioned, that each specimen is preceded by a brief notice of its author, and the occasion or circumstance of the composition, a part of the work, to which the translator, at least, has all the claims of a genuine author, and which appears to have been performed with not less ability and success, than the other or greater portion of his labour.

The following extracts will afford some idea of the general manner of Mr. *Carlyle* in his translations and preliminary notices.

"THE ADIEU.

"By ABOU MOHAMMED.

"This beautiful little composition, which it is impossible to read without being streuk with its remarkable similitude to Sappho's famous ode, Φαινεται μοι κεινος ισος θεοισιν, &c. was sung before the Khaliph *Wathek*, by ABOU MOHAMMED, a musician of Bagdad, as a specimen of his musical talents; and such were its effects upon the Khaliph, that he immediately testified his approbation the performance by throwing his own ro over the shoulders of Abou Mohamm and ordering him a present of an hundr thousand dirhems.

"Wathek was the ninth Khaliph of t house of Abbas, and son to Motassem, t youngest of Haroun Alrashid's children.

"He succeeded his father A. H. 22 and died after a short reign of five years.

"Wathek was not deficient either in vi tue or in abilities. He not only admired a countenanced literature and the scienc but in several branches of them, partic larly poetry and music, was himself a pr ficient ; he was brave, liberal, and ju But notwithstanding his good qualities, could never render himself popular wi his subjects, on account of his being unfo tunately attached to the heterodox opini that the Koran had been created. In co sequence of this prejudice against him, h reign was perpetually disturbed by ri and insurrections; in one of which h had nearly been deposed, and Ahmed Be Nassar, a doctor of Bagdad, the most str nuous supporter of the Koran's eternit elected Khaliph in his room.

Nor was this dislike confined only t those of his own time ; many succeedin historians have adopted the same ideas and represented Wathek as a monster o impiety. But we cannot easily *give credit* to these assertions, with respect to a princ who encouraged industry with so muc judgment, that not a beggar could be see throughout his empire, and who died with the following ejaculation in his mouth, 'king of heaven! whose dominion is ever-lasting, have mercy on a wretched prince whose reign is transitory.'

"The boatmen shout, ''tis time to part,
No longer we can stay ;'—
'Twas then MAIMUNA taught my heart,
How much a glance could say.

With trembling steps to me she came;
"Farewell," she would have cried,
But ere her lips the word could frame,
In half-form'd sounds it died.

Then bending down with looks of love,
Her arms she round me flung,
And, as the gale hangs on the grove,
Upon my breast she hung.

My willing arms embrac'd the maid,
My heart with raptures beat;
While she but wept the more and said,
"Would we had never met!"

"ON MODERATION IN OUR PLEASURES.

"By ABOU ALCASSIM EBN TABATABA.

"Tabataba deduced his pedigree from Ali Ben Abou Taleb, and Fatima, the daughter of Mohammed.

"He was born at Ispahan, but passed th principal part of his life in Egypt, where h

was appointed chief of the sheriffs, i. e. the descendants of the prophet, a dignity held in the highest veneration by every Mussulman. He died in the year of the Hejira 418, with the reputation of being one of the most excellent poets of his time.

"How oft does passion's grasp destroy
The pleasure that it strives to gain;
How soon the thoughtless course of joy
Is doom'd to terminate in pain.

When prudence would thy steps delay,
She but restrains to make thee blest;
Whate'er from joy she lops away,
But heightens and secures the rest.

Wouldst thou a trembling flame expand,
That hastens in the lamp to die;
With careful touch, with sparing hand,
The feeding stream of life supply.

But if thy flask profusely sheds
A rushing torrent o'er the blaze,
Swift round the sinking flame it spreads,"
And kills the fire it fain would raise.

The poetical department of the present volume of the Asiatic Register, like the last, is considerably indebted to the work, of which we are now giving some account, and for which we express our sincere acknowledgments. *Mr Carlyle* has put in a modest *disclaimer*, in his preface, of the merit of the specimens presented by hi[m] but the interest, which he has acqui[red] in them, is too obvious and direct, to allow the equitable court of criticism to admit the plea.

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